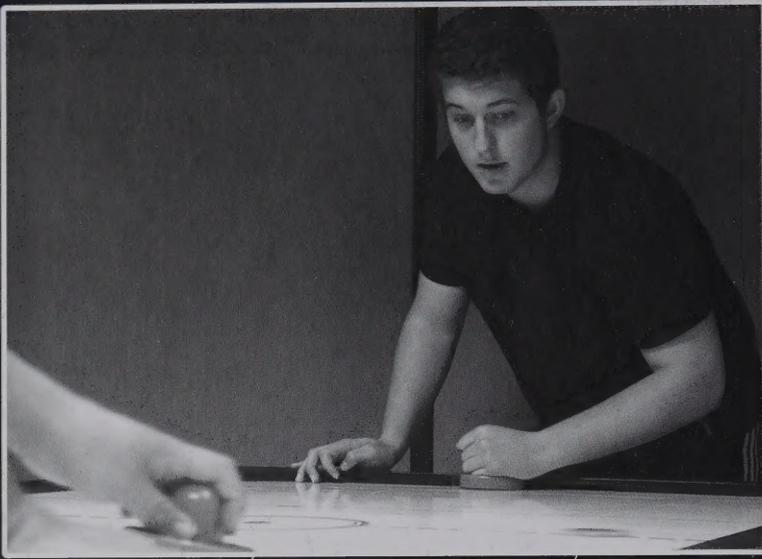


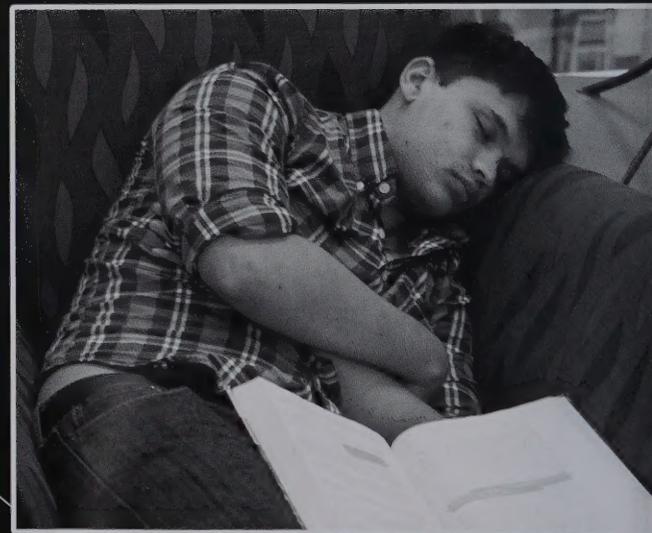
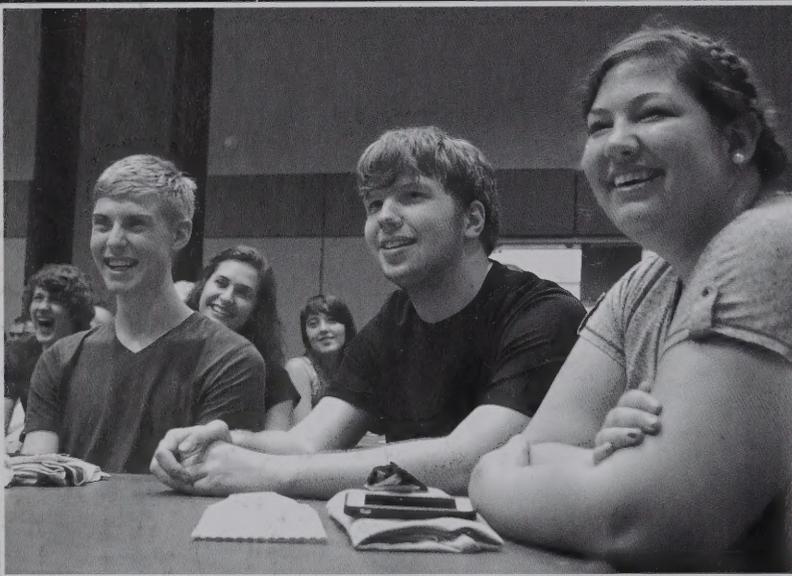
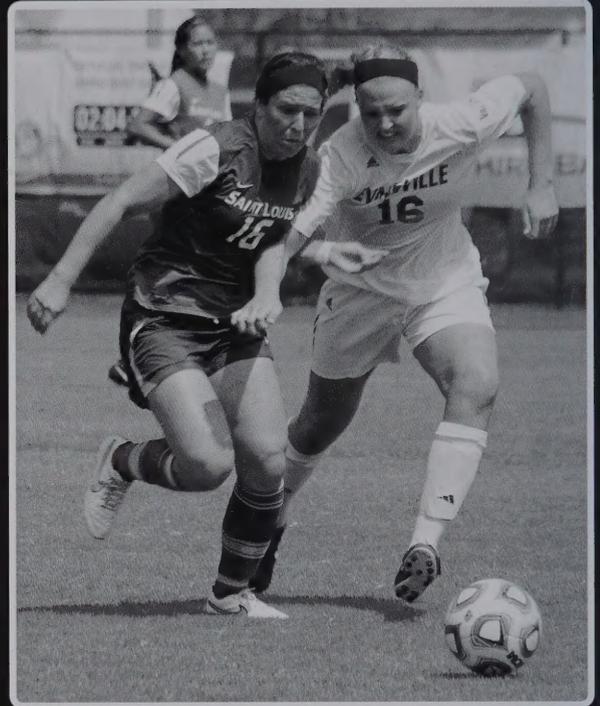
Let's
FACE
it

LinC 2015



During a game of air hockey, freshman Joshua Estridge is caught off guard as the puck flies his way. | William Mallmann

To see which "16" is best, defender Olivia Shafer battles St. Louis forward Kirsten Clemens for possession. | Kate Sarber



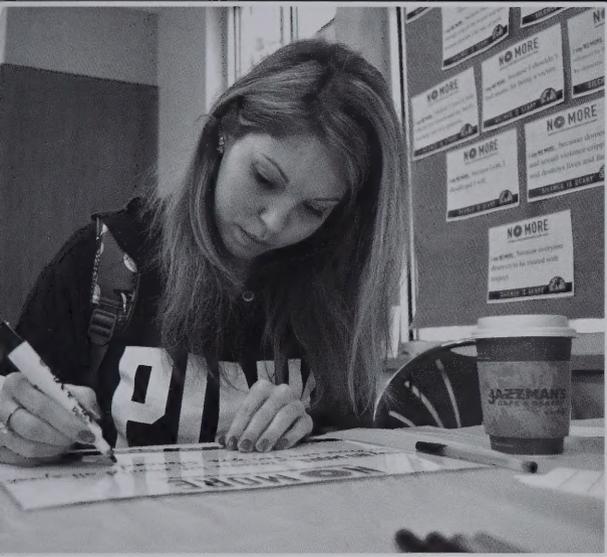
Who knew studying could be so exhausting? Luckily for junior Gian Prabhudas, his book stays open to the correct page. | MaKayla Seifert

Comedian Jen Kober's self-deprecating humor gives freshmen Josh Baty and Shane Bentsen and sophomore Colleen Malo something to laugh about during the SAB event. | MaKayla Seifert



This watermelon gets what's coming to it when sophomore Cindy White smashes it at Lambda Chi Alpha's "Watermelon Bust." | MaKayla Seifert

Contents



The perfect bowls and chili will help senior Oriana Lada stay warm at Clay Club's "Chili Bowl." | MaKayla Seifert

During a NO MORE campaign program, senior Laura Acchiardo writes a message denouncing sexual abuse. | MaKayla Seifert

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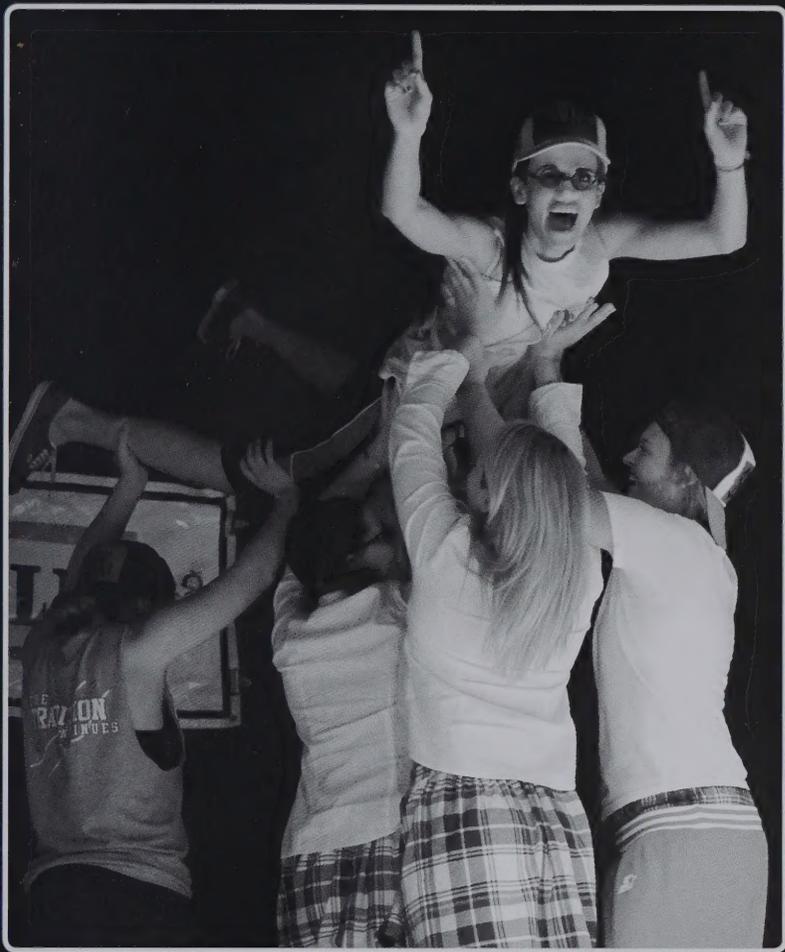
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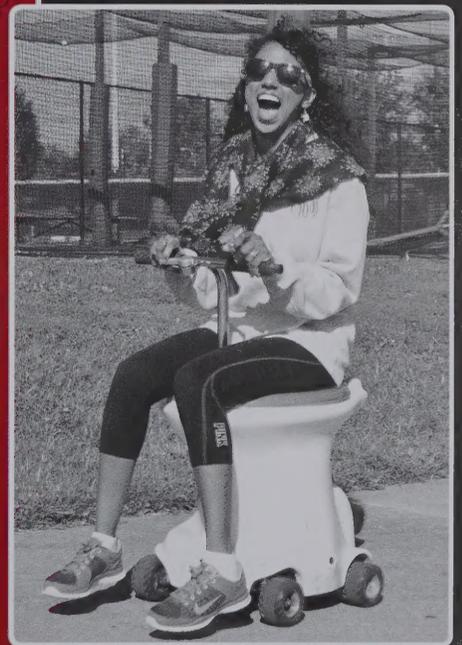
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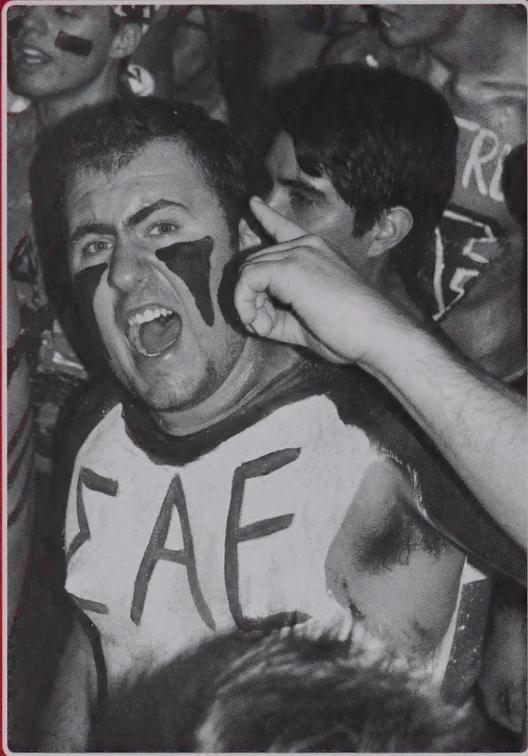


2015 LinC
Volume 94
University of Evansville
Evansville, Ind.

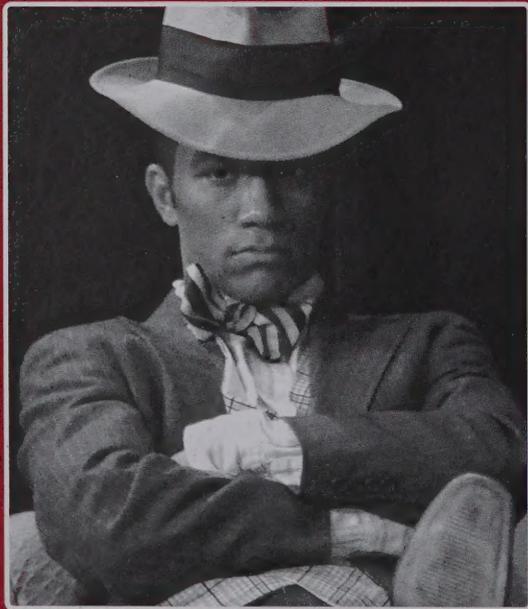
Sometimes their songs don't match the videos. Sophomores Mattie Spain, Alex Elger and Ashley Kippley watch a video freshman Breanna Engle finds hilarious. | William Mallmann

And around and around and around she goes. Junior Kelsey Robards and sophomores Michelle Sonnenberger, Bailey Butrum and Georgie Davidson spin freshman McKala Troxler at Phi Mu's "Rock-4-Riley." | Sydney Blessinger

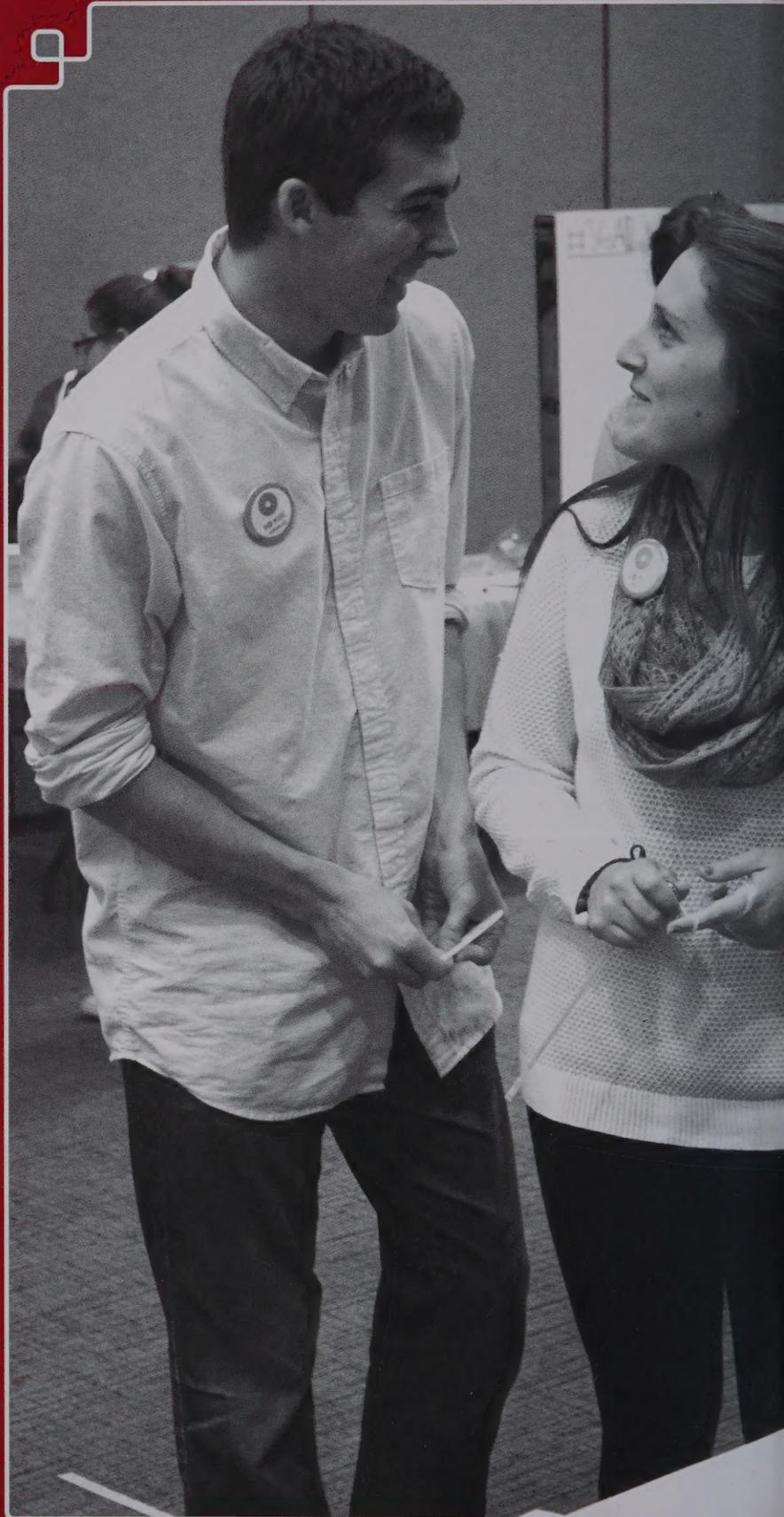
Shifting into second gear, junior Allierose Hussain sees the humor in it all as she rides a popular motorized toilet during SAB's "Fall Carnival." | Taylor Williams



"Rah rah for Alpha." Sophomore Clay Doty is having a really good time as Sigma Alpha Epsilon waits for new members during Passover. | Taylor Williams



While staring drunkenly into space, Jackie (senior Steffan Clark) isolates himself from the revelers in UE Theatre's production of "The Wild Party." | Bethany Boeglin



One step away from victory in a "Facts About Sexual Harassment" game, senior Nathan Graves chooses the wrong answer as his final question. Sophomore Charissa Lahee looks at him with disapproval but also with a smile on her face. | William Mallmann

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2015

IT IS & What IT IS



Sadie Wacker

Senior Kate Sarber



William Mallmann

Sophomore Brianna Nichols



Makayla Seifert

Senior Connor Donnelly



Can you play blackjack without first looking at your cards? Considering the impact of their bets, freshmen Joshua Estridge, Abdulhasib Al-jandali and Spike Yusuf wait for senior J.R. Peters to make the house's next play. Senior Jack Meranda, sophomore Noor Alsirafi and freshman Abdullahi Ishola patiently watch as they hope to join the next round of wagering. | Samantha Cook

No one ever said UE was perfect, and we certainly never thought it. Sure, we'd all heard it before — college would be the best years of our lives — and for a lot of us it was. At what other time in our lives would we buckle under the stress of research papers and resumes while unabashedly running in the rain and enjoying the “dry” campus' numerous flooded spots? When else would we carelessly binge on ice cream and Disney movies without really worrying about waking up on time the next morning?

We were all going through the emotional turmoil of trying to be some sort of functioning adult-creature, but we did it with style. We knew we were ignoring the impending doom of adulthood and embraced it.

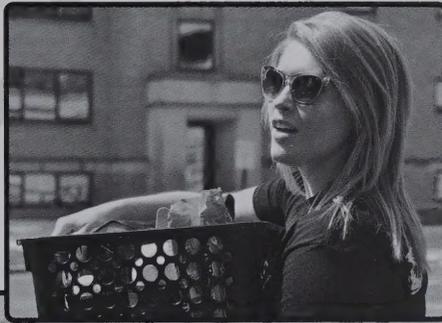
Yeah, no sane person would ever say that Sodexo food was manna from the heavens or even consistently edible, but we ate it. The hamburger patties were sized for babies and the pizza slices dripped far too much grease. Everyone had a horrible Cafe Court food story — undercooked chicken, overcooked rice, questionable lettuce. To get by we learned how to cheat the system, to get much more than our swipe's worth, or at least turned a blind eye to those who did. And there wasn't a soul who lived in the Villages who didn't cave at least once and go to Cafe Court because they missed the convenience and the vegetables offered.

Even those who could stomach the food and had a



With all the baskets finally out of her vehicle, freshman Morgan Walker follows her stuff into Morton Hall. | Samantha Cook

Senior Matthew Banks watches his Tau Kappa Epsilon brothers during Passover. | Taylor Williams



After the last water balloon splashed onto the last unsuspecting victim, those in the class of 2018 and their Orientation Leaders huddle for a crowd shot and officially end the Freshmen Olympics. | Samantha Cook



It's like they just stepped off a neighborhood lawn. Graduate student Jessica Stoens and seniors Jessika Volz, Amanda Strahm and Meghan Yokem show off their coordinated garden gnome costumes at RSA's "Halloween Bash." | Taylor Williams



handle on their workloads couldn't deny one thing — the only events UE had that were a sure thing and guaranteed a good turnout were from Greek life. But then again only Greeks really went, often making others attending feel like fish out of unaffiliated water.

We joked about it, knowing there were men's basketball games being played, but also knowing we were going to lay in bed whining about another wasted Saturday night instead of going out. We found other things to fill our precious free time. We hung out in residence halls, crowded around laptops watching Netflix or YouTube videos with friends. We went to bars and competed in trivia competitions. We happily played in the snow when classes were canceled and hated trekking through the winter wasteland to go anywhere when they weren't.

It wasn't the big, earth-shattering accomplishments like getting a paper published or presenting at a conference that got us out of bed in the morning. It was when we went to make ramen and realized we actually had clean dishes. Or the quiet relief of finally finishing a huge assignment at 4 a.m. the morning it was due.

We cheered for our friends in philanthropies, enjoyed the random people playing the piano in Ridgway Center and soaked up the sun while socializing on the "grassy knoll," come high winds, humid heat or perfect weather.

Sure, we talked trash about how much we had to pay to attend UE, but let's be honest, none of us actually paid 40 grand. With all the scholarships and grants UE



may be the first time you think of
the word. It's not a word you'd expect
to see in a book like this.

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in a book like this. It's not a word
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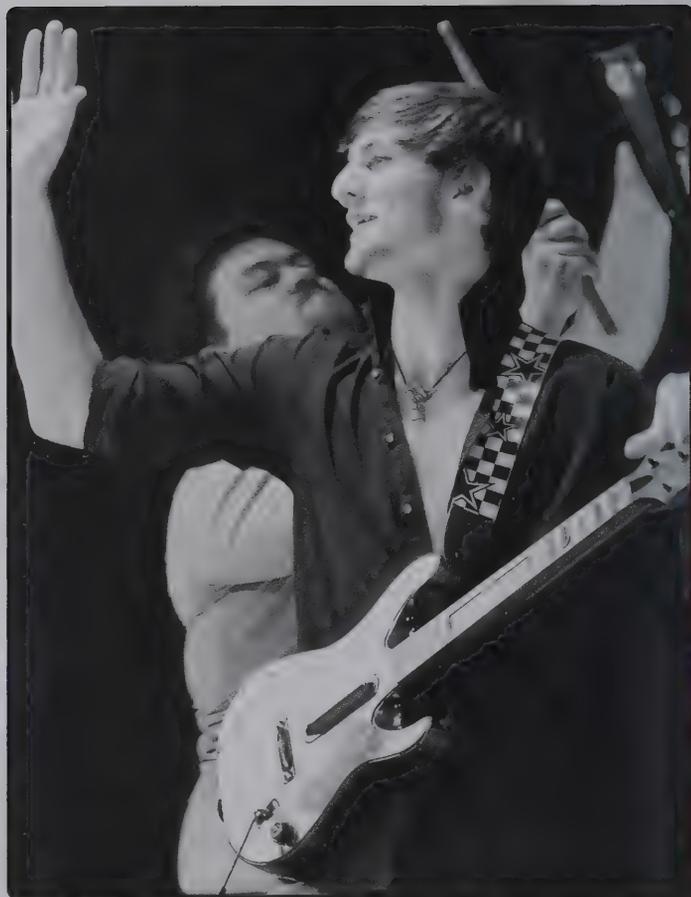
offered, we got a private school education, with professors who really cared about us, for a lot less than we could have.

We joked about how bad our sports teams were, but most of us never paid enough attention to know when they did well, which they all did at some point in their seasons. Athletes deserved to be commended for putting so much time and effort into one love while studying for another. We procrastinated about our homework until anxiety kept us awake at night and made us even more tired. And everyone had at least one run-in with the overabundance of ants and cockroaches in resident housing — the terror was real. But we knew all of this. And we loved it.

Yes, this was a place we loved, for better or worse. Here was the place we spent countless days and nights studying subjects and things that made us passionate — whether that passion was about our courses, partying or the hottie with a body that we passed every afternoon as we walked through Memorial Plaza.

This was where we made the friends who stayed up with us all night talking about the stuff we could never tell our parents or small-town friends, the stuff that in sudden moments of dread and excitement made us realize we were actually growing up.

True, nobody ever said it was perfect, but most of life at UE was created from our imperfections. And every day, every semester, every year we made the best of it and figured “Let’s face it, it is what it is.”



“Phi-Day Night Live” finds senior Neal Carellier and sophomore Nathan Stroud rockin’ out. | Bethany Boeglin

Sophomore Sheila Kuss and senior Stephanie Schmidlin greet Phi Mu’s newest members. | Taylor Williams



Practicing lacrosse in a rochet, but freshman Sarah Pfeleiderer shows off her advanced finger skill. (L to R) Kater

Seniors Wes Kniss and John Mingo get lacrosse tips from Thomas Jankovic talk tactics for winning the game. (M to R) Miller

If ever two to make, and sometimes win to earn. With just a little encouragement, seniors Danell Preston and David Robertson off the top of the net to be just a senior. (M to R) Miller



That's freezing! There is no better way to beat the late August heat than to participate in the ALS Ice Bucket Challenge. Freshmen Dylan Turner, Briana Weaver, Chandler Riem, Alexandra Zurawicki and Dominic Bolt volunteer to have bucket after bucket of ice-cold water poured on their heads during the annual Freshmen Olympics. | Samantha Cook



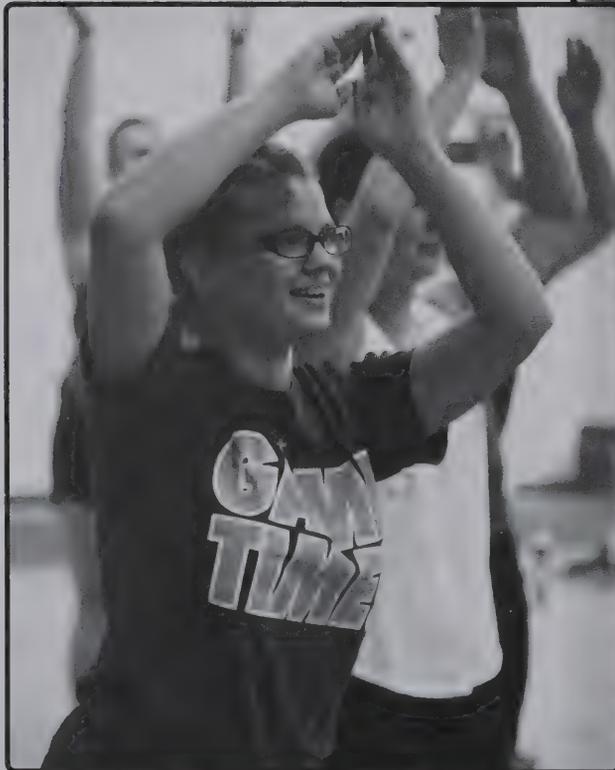
IT'S US

How do you describe UE? It was easy — small, personable, with an abundance of squirrels. But if asked to describe us, the ones who lived here, who really made up UE, the answer was a little more complicated because we were complicated. Sure, others called us the millennials, the “me” generation, but we knew we were more than that. We came from all over the world with different upbringings and beliefs. Some of us prayed every day, others never prayed at all — or only for a strong WiFi signal so our Snapchat selfies would send. There were those of us who could grow beards a lumberjack would envy and others who found them crazy attractive. What one of us liked or found important didn't always apply to others. Sometimes it didn't even apply to our friends. But there were those things that brought us together, whether it was laughing about YikYak posts or college student problems. We were a community. We were connected. Residence halls, academic buildings and uneven sidewalks made up our school physically, but our ideas, our relationships, our morals and our peculiarities made up the spirit of UE. We weren't just a part of UE, we were UE.

Warming up to Cher Lloyd's "Want U Back," graduate students Alex Hays and Ashley Will and freshman Danielle Arnold move to the booming beat. | MaKayla Seifert

Doing more than just dancing, juniors Chelsey Greenwood and Taylor Walker work their abdominals. | Kate Sarber

Why can't burning calories and stress relief always be this fun? Sophomore Michelle Sonnenberger swings her hips to the beat and follows the instructor's moves. | Kate Sarber



Sticking out with his spot-on dance moves, freshman Chandler Riem joins the women and adds flare to this Tuesday night Zumba class. He spends his hour singing, dancing and sweating with others to the upbeat music. | Sydney Blessinger

Let's Get **PHYSICAL**, Physical

Sometimes staying fit seemed to be one of two extremes — either working out daily in the Fitness Center or climbing the breath-defying stairs to the third floor of Graves Hall and counting that as enough exercise. No matter which you chose, fitness really was part of college life.

While not having time to properly work out was a common excuse for many, stopping by the center on a regular basis made the cut more often. Junior Chelsey Greenwood fit exercise into her daily routine and saw it as an important part of getting through every week.

"You definitely had to make time for it, you had to plan it in your day," she said. "It was kind of like homework — you had to make time to put homework in your schedule, and you had to make time to put workouts in your schedule."

Starting a fitness routine and staying with it was the hardest part. While many gave going to the center an enthusiastic try at the start of each semester, getting out of a cozy bed or pausing a captivating Netflix marathon wasn't strong enough to continue the habit.

Greenwood said bringing a friend with her to work out made it easier — and more fun. And it was also about finding the exercise that worked best. For her, that often meant skipping the center's classes and coming up with a personal routine.

To keep fit, graduate student Samuel Cartwright either lifted weights or played sports. For many, this kind of workout was a welcomed time away from

the strains of college life. Students who used exercise to step away from it all saw benefits.

"If nothing went right in the day, that was one thing I did to take care of myself," Greenwood said.

For a lot of students, their schedule included fitness classes they could take with friends. Zumba, which Greenwood taught to about 50 people every week, helped participants get over the dreaded middle-of-the-week slump and included upbeat music and crazy dance moves.

"People didn't feel like they were working out," she said. "It made them feel better physically and emotionally, and I thought that was the main reason they came back."

If dancing or solo workouts were not someone's cup of tea, then a variety of classes, such as yoga and weightlifting, brought different health benefits and plenty of participants. The center's gym overflowed with students on days when yoga was taught — there could be upwards of 100 people — who were ready to stretch away their time.

Just because working out wasn't a top priority for everyone didn't mean students didn't see the advantages. Other classes, such as the always-fun and entertaining Brazilian Dance, allowed students to include some silliness in their workout and gain a little more than just muscle.

"Personally, it definitely helped me build confidence in myself," Greenwood said. "At first I was like, 'Oh, I don't know if I could go up there and shake my butt.' But then I got up there and forgot about that."

the

REASON FOR THE WORKOUT



"You got to be active to music that helped people relax. It just became the stress relief of the week and gave you something to look forward to outside of your regular academic day." —Emma Kelley

Crazy activities in the early days of college life might initially turn total strangers into the best of friends, but the next four years of classes, schoolwork, socializing and changing dynamics were as likely to change friendships as they were to strengthen them.

Mutual interests, similar personalities and a love for Netflix seemed to be what knit many students together from the start. As theatre performance majors, freshmen Aaron Gonner and Miranda Schieving found that their personalities were compatible, from their sassiness to their love of sarcasm. They also liked having hypothetical conversations with each other and hit it off so well that they hoped to travel Europe together.

Joy Grace Chen

‘Cause You’re There For **ME** Too



Thanks to study abroad opportunities, world travel wasn't an unrealistic goal for college friends, and students who went to Harlaxton together often grew even closer. While travel could sometimes strain relationships, experiencing new cultures and getting lost in cities definitely brought others closer. Juniors Grace Hunter, Grace Bush and Toby Kuhnke visited Paris and put a lock on the city's famous Pont des Arts bridge to celebrate a friendship that had started during the first weeks of their freshman year. Three years later, they spent the majority of every day together.

"[College] made you form really, really close friendships because you were living with them all the time," Bush said. "You kind of took it for granted because your friends were just upstairs. They were accessible to you all the time."

Like those three, many people who got to know each other early on stayed together, but a lot could happen over time. Between schedules and life in general, students could experience radical shifts in their friend groups. Junior Jalen Stepp found his sophomore year to be a revamp year as far as friends were concerned. And then he met senior Aaron McGee through resident assistant training.

The two quickly figured out that they both had ridiculous senses of humor that made RA duties much more fun since other RAs tended to be a bit too serious for the pair. Whether they were dancing in the hallways or pretending to be a SWAT team during room checks, Stepp and McGee became best friends outside of work — something that was not hard to do on a small college campus where students saw each other most every day.

"I just liked the fact that I could talk to him freely," Stepp said. "We didn't have issues. I didn't have any problem with him."

The best friendships involved people who just loved hanging out together. Freshman year might spark a bunch of relationships, but other chance encounters could find people getting together out-of-the-blue. What held them together was the fact that they had enough in common to make the most of life's mundane moments.



After rushing to find the perfect bowl, sophomores Kendall Reasons and Demi Davis and freshman Davis Cowart wait in line for hot chili. | MaKayla Seifert

Warming up with friends. Sophomores Tayssir AlTounsi, Tyler Booker and Gilang Chiara greet each other after class on a brisk January day. | Taylor Williams



Sometimes it's good idea to sit and relax for while on a warm afternoon. Seniors Brianne Harrell, Lydia Maurice, Ryan Paulin and Karine Poindexter take this idea to heart on a hot September day. | Willian Mallmann



Friends often do lunch together, and with stomachs growling, sophomores Anna Moll and Ariel Barnes decide where to go. | Amy Parker

As they scroll down a lengthy playlist, sophomore Preston Wagner and senior Christina Miller find the perfect song for an upcoming event. | Amy Parker

the ONES WHO MAKE IT WORTH IT



“The friends you make in college, they become your family. Here you lived with them. They are your neighbors, literally.” —Jonatan Oliveira with Carl Minnette

Beyond **GIVING** Back

Between rushing to classes, waiting for the weekend, going to events and socializing with friends, students often glanced over the opportunities to give back without a second thought. But college supported a wealth of possibilities, and the habit of helping others often started here.

"It created a connection between people that they hadn't known before," sophomore Nikki Greer said. "Also, it showed our commitment to supporting the outside community, not just campus."

From their first weeks experiencing college life, students had the opportunity to give back with the Freshman Service Project. And the tradition of volunteering continued throughout the years with campus-wide service days each semester.

During fall semester students participated in Make-a-Difference Day — on their own or as part of a group — and in the spring with UE Gives Back. Projects centered on helping at local nonprofits such as elementary schools, parks or relief organizations. And though participating was often required for certain groups, being "volun-told" sometimes sparked an interest that students didn't realize they had.

As a Phi Mu community service committee chair, some like Greer took the perspective of "you do it because you have to" and fought to change that way of thinking. She wanted to make volunteering more engaging by offering different types of service at a variety of times. Members could then easily fit hours into their schedules. It also meant they could pick and choose the projects that fit them best.

And while these opportunities prompted some to continue the practice, others took the idea of helping others into their lives and made it a passion on a much grander scale. Exchange student Luis Gonzalez volunteered around the globe and brought that passion with him to UE. After building houses in his home country of Venezuela and mentoring homeless children in Cairo, Egypt, Gonzalez volunteered at Memorial High School.

"They not only learned a language, they lived a day through my culture," he said. "The way I taught was not common for them. It was a more international way for them to live, and I thought for the students it was like a boost."

Even with students that teachers warned him about, Gonzalez tried to inspire and encourage. He told personal stories about his volunteer experiences, letting students know that tough times affected a lot of people but that was never a reason to just give up. It was connections like these that made helping others significant and gave both sides a fresh outlook.

"It gave you just another perspective of life," Gonzalez said. "You didn't receive anything in exchange, but those people you were helping were so thankful. Just the feeling that you were helping others and giving a hand, that was beautiful."

Whether helping others by attending a philanthropy, volunteering in the community or by holding the door open for a stranger, the custom of giving back became a lifelong passion for many.

the

RIGHT KIND OF ATTITUDE



"Get more involved in volunteer work. Can you imagine a world where everyone was willing to help others? If they put in the effort, we would definitely have a more beautiful environment." —Luis Gonzalez





Make-a-Difference Day finds freshman Connor Cresci, junior Corey Piel and sophomore Sam Dowd making this courtyard an enjoyable space for children to play in. | Sadie Wacker

Sitting on the cabin of a semi-trailer truck, sophomore Taylor Williams scrubs until the metal shines. | Samantha Cook

Distributing mulch, junior Sarah McLear helps improve the quality of flower beds at the Tri-State Food Bank with her small group during Welcome Week. | Samantha Cook



Careful to keep the paint off her clothing on this bright, sunny day, freshman Margaret Ilic finds the perfect angle to apply primer to a handrail that is in desperate need of some care. | Samantha Cook





Making weekend plans, sophomores Corinne Werner and Nathan Stroud enjoy an unseasonably warm November afternoon. | Sadie Wacker



Not all relationships are meant to last and that's an OK thing. Here, freshman Amanda Alexander catches up on her homework while freshman Matthew McDermid finds relaxing more to his liking. | Taylor Williams

by Joy Grace Chen

Crazy Little **THING** Called Love

Almost everyone had experienced some sort of “first love” by the time they arrived at UE. But in college, couples had to figure out a different kind of love as they navigated school while maturing as people.

With classes and organizations, college offered lots of chances to meet new people. Whether someone was looking for “the one” or only interested in “friends with benefits,” everyone had their own idea of the college love story. Singles could easily find casual partners with the option of continuing to hook up or avoiding each other if things went wrong. But others came into college ready to form deeper relationships, like juniors Sydney White and Justin Slattery.

“We both had the mindset that it was going to be a mature relationship from the start,” Slattery said. “And it has been, even though we act like 5 years olds most of the time.”

Of course, in the middle of hectic lives, students had to be deliberate about spending time together — whether it was date nights or just appreciating the little moments they had with each other.

“Really, it was just making time for [my girlfriend],” senior Travis Gilley said. “At the end of the day, I went home to her.”

Long distances also challenged relationships. Slattery and White spent every summer 200 miles apart, as well as spending different semesters at Harlaxton. But their situation wasn’t uncommon. While many couples survived, study abroad still led to the end of many relationships. Sometimes it was better that way. Not everyone found their soul mate in college, and some couples realized that they were not right for each other.

“[My ex-boyfriend and I] were trying to get back together, and he was going in a different direction than I was,” junior Eunice De La Torre said. “So it was mutual.”

Relationships required couples to stick it out through the ups and downs, even with both partners still figuring out their majors, who they were and how to balance their lives. Sophomores Araly Flores and Gilbert Sanchez had been dating since high school, but when they came to UE they still had to reconcile their different passions and interests — teaching music and sociology.

“He taught me about how he felt about children and what it was like to teach children,” Flores said. “And I came back and told him what was wrong with the world.”

Whether students came to school already together or met while they were here, relationships were as varied as the couples themselves. College could result in a long-term relationship for some, while for others it was a time to find themselves. Single or dating, committed or casual, students came out of college understanding more about themselves, other people and that crazy little thing called love.



Swaying to Taylor Swift’s “Love Story,” juniors Grace Hunter and Kirstin Ethridge are caught up in this gentle moment at RSA’s “Winter Whispers.” | Kate Sarber

the

SPARKS FLY MOMENT



“He wanted to change the world and stuff. I never met anyone like that.”

—Leah Jo Helpingstine with Julian Erickson.

Everyone said it. UE was a friendly place. Yet despite its friendliness, the differences in people's upbringing and values meant students had to learn a bit more about respect during their college years. And this could be hard. Students lived in their own bubbles, but as different campaigns, events and discussions became more frequent, students started talking about respecting people's sexuality, gender, race and the right to say "no more."

"Education was at least a good step in the right direction," sophomore Danielle Gillespie said. "People had good intentions, but they didn't always know there was an issue to stop."

RSA's "Rave Back the Night," along with kNOw MORE Day and

by Mackenzie Bruce

Find Out What It **MEANS** to Me

Tackling Sexual Assault, offered information on sexual and domestic violence, while other events worked to create awareness of different oppressed people. Some, like PRIDE's "Coming Out Panel" or Women's Awareness' "Vagina Monologues," allowed for open discussion of personal experiences with gender and sexuality.

Yet students did not just strive to respect each other's choices and sexualities. During Martin Luther King Jr. Day, students promoted racial equality and understanding, and I-House allowed for social education. International students discussed their home countries including traditions, dances and food, making the idea of respect something directed at an individual instead of a general group.

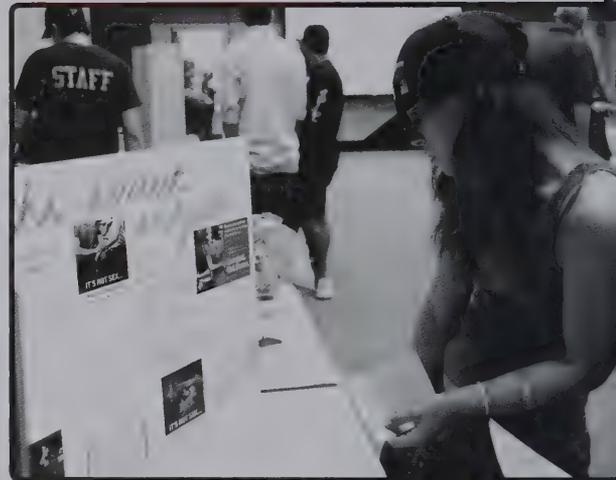
"We had a big variety of types of people and a lot of people weren't used to other types of people," sophomore Sabrina Lux said. "You just had to have a natural respect for other people's culture and personalities."

Those in charge of the NO MORE campaign took the idea of personalizing stereotypes and worked them on posters. A teal background and familiar faces caught students' eyes, but the statements kept them reading with captions like "I'll say something next time," "Well, she was drunk" or "That doesn't happen to guys." For some, the stereotype was all they knew. The line between respect and disrespect was blurred, and some wanted to avoid the subject altogether. The programs gave students a comfortable space to read statistics, ask questions and learn ways to prevent the unthinkable.

"You could see the students who already kind of had that experience with self-defense," sophomore Ryan Lane said. "But you could also see those who had oh moments, like, 'Oh, I see,' and some of them even acted it out."

The campaigns and discussions were often uncomfortable reminders of what it meant to fully respect someone else. But they also created a space that got students together and talking.

"You could go with the golden rule, treat people the way you wanted to be treated," Lux said. "If you gave respect, you got respect. It was a community, so you had to stick together."



Serving as a human doorstop, senior Craig Schlemmer greets junior Justin Carey as he enters Ridgway Center. | MaKayla Seifert

Sexual safety is a hot topic during RSA's "Rave Back the Night." Freshman Danielle Lopiccolo learns about consent. | Kate Sarber



Writing NO MORE on kNOW MORE Day is a form of expression for many on campus. Sophomores Margarita Avorro and Colton Newton write their feelings on the Say No More board. Students use the board to express why they say no more to domestic violence and sexual assault. | Sadie Wacker

the REASON FOR THE GOLDEN RULE



"It was just a way of life. You may not have liked them, but you still had to respect them. It's just what you did, it just was." —Sabrina Lux



Showing others some self-defense, junior Sara Cook pretends to knee sophomore Ryan Lane during RSA's "Have Back the Night." | Kate Sarber

No more violence is the main message at Silence is Scary. Freshman Emilee Johnson writes why she says "no more." | MaKayla Seifert

the

MIGHTIEST PART OF ALL



“It was so powerful to have so many people in one area. We were all praising God.” —Shelby Henderson



Giving praise for all she has been blessed with, freshman Emme French sings thanks during a Student Christian Fellowship gathering. | Taylor Williams



Beginning any service with music and praise seems to get everyone in the spirit. Freshmen Madel Presto and Samantha Mackey and senior Wes Knies begin devotion in Neu Chapel's Grabill Lounge. | Taylor Williams

by Joy Grace Chen

Living Out a PERSONAL Belief

Spirituality and religion were broad terms with different meanings. But for a large number of students, their faith was a personalized affair that had both an inward and outward impact on their lives.

To survive the hectic challenges of college, students often found new meaning in their religion. Life could get crazy, but their beliefs gave them a sense of peace and purpose.

"My faith played an integral role in my daily life," senior Jacquelyn Ballard said. "It gave me a reason to get up in the morning, to face each day, to know that there was more than just studying or work. There was a bigger purpose."

Despite the encouragement it offered, faith was hard to maintain. Students who once depended on the structure of church realized they needed to take initiative to remain spiritual. Sophomore Bushara Ahmed learned to make her faith a priority.

"I reminded myself I was here today because of God," she said. "I made sure my classes fit into the time I had to pray."

Personal beliefs had influences on other areas of life. While not all Muslim women chose to wear a traditional head covering, graduate student Miad Mansour considered the hijab an external symbol of her faith and self-worth.

"I felt like [the] hijab required people to respect me," she said.

Dress and other religious convictions could spark conversations, especially on a campus that was widely accepting of spirituality. Students who held certain views enjoyed engaging with the opinions of others, both inside and outside of class.

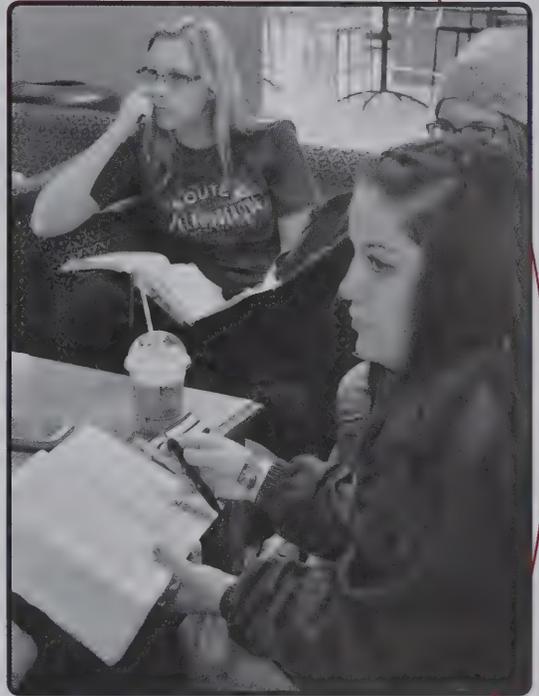
"It caused me to be involved in classes and conversations," freshman Isaiah Frey said. "I liked to bring my religion's perspective on whatever we were talking about. It was usually pretty relevant. It determined how I thought and how I contributed to others' thoughts."

Different organizations also allowed students to live out their religion with others of the same faith. Hillel celebrated the Jewish community with cultural events. Newman Center invited students weekly to meet for dinner and discussion.

Student Christian Fellowship encouraged members to reach out to students in a variety of ways. In addition to Friday night meetings and a number of Bible studies, SCF put on several games of capture-the-flag as a study break and opportunity to socialize.

These connections with other believers, combined with personal convictions, helped anchor students to their religion. College might have been tough, but it challenged their faith in a good way.

"You learned your faith more when you were away from the place where you were born," Ahmed said. "It was a new beginning to be convinced that this was the right path for you."



Immersed in scripture, junior Lauren Woodrow reads verses to her weekly Bible study group. | Taylor Williams

Sharing verses is what Bible study is all about as sophomore Kacie Garrison and freshmen Bailey Smith and Megan Morris listen to an interpretation. | Taylor Williams

Kiss **MYSELF**, I'm So Trendy



Flower decorations are all the style, and sophomore Madeline Mettler perfects her look with a purple scarf and an orange flower. | Taylor Williams

While Captain America may not have a beard, senior Jackson McGrath sports the trend and rocks it while giving a class presentation. | MaKayla Seifert

Each year brought new crazes. The idea of choosing specific things to enjoy varied so much, that it almost didn't matter what was liked.

"It was in our generation that it was trendy to really be yourself," freshman Missy Sullivan said.

Clothing showed the widest range of character, as some chose to follow the most popular trends, while others stayed super casual and didn't care whether something was trendy or not. Freshman Melissa Mihovich was bold in an identifiable way.

"The 1950s was what I tended to go to," she said. "It was a very flattering set of designs. It was made to show the world your figure without being revealing."

There were so many different styles to choose from, even when thinking about what pair of pants to wear. From flowing Palazzo pants to colorful skinny jeans, what to wear was a big deal to some. But not everyone looked on all fashion choices with approval.

"Tight jeans were trendy," freshman Trevor Guyton said. "I didn't know how I felt about that."

And some simply didn't care — they preferred comfort to style, with many just putting on what funky item they had found at a thrift shop. From this lack of care, looking effortlessly untidy yet stylish became common for some busy students. This also spurred debates on how to perfect a messy bun, whether leggings counted as pants and when a beard went from scruffy-hot to shaggy-not hot.

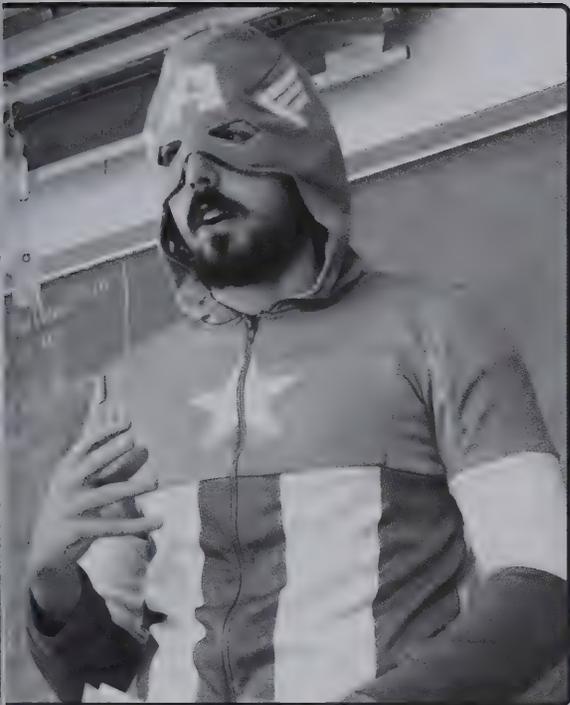
"Looking like you didn't care was a trend," Guyton said. "I think that was a very strange trend because if you had the money to look nice, then look nice."

Some wore their Netflix-viewing clothes to classes. Sweat-pants and logo-embroidered shirts sported fandom alliances — think "Breaking Bad," "Sherlock" and "Captain America" — while beanies craftily covered up unruly hair.

Headphones became a common accessory because music became a common bond. Although everyone's taste differed, the most popular songs snuck into daily life. Trends even swayed such a simple thing as conversation. Phrases like "Don't believe me, just watch" and "Goin' up on a Tuesday" slipped into everyday language and Internet posts.

Common, quirky terms and words popped up in almost every sentence, with "bro" and "bae" being among the top, along with "thirsty" and "on fleek." Each had its own special effect on people, so some found them annoying while others found them endearing.

As common trends, popular ideas and exposure to new aspects of culture continued to evolve and grow, there would always be a new way for people to find themselves — to be their own person and stand out in a particular way.



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HEIGHT OF BEING “IN”



“Instead of being trendy as a whole, I thought people went through stages of their own trends.” —Candice Reed



ing it up for fall, these freshmen — Whitley Brock, McKenna Murphy, Trevor Guyton, Missy Sullivan, Zoie Kruger, Miranda hieving, Kira Vuolo and Paige Ward — each make their own styles unique. | Willian Mallmann



During some free time, freshman Breanna Engle visits Pinterest and watches videos to amuse herself for the afternoon. | Sadie Wacker

Music makes studying a lot easier — and bearable — for many students, including senior Kaci Harrison. | Sydney Blessinger



Krannert Hall's Mac lab is a place of work and play for many students. Seniors Haley Albers and Michael Mann take a break to catch up on the latest craze ruling the Internet. | Sydney Blessinger

the BIGGEST ADDICTION



"I was definitely a selfie-er. I selfied so many times. I think for me it was just like a confidence thing. 'I felt great today, let's post a picture.'" —Lindsey Moore

Social media dominated students' lives. Before bed, in between classes, during class — everyone was superglued to their phones and constantly scrolling through different feeds. If something happened, they knew it already. If a celebrity selfie or a cute video of hedgehogs and kittens meeting for the first time went viral, they'd already seen it — twice. Good and bad, serious or silly, what was going on in the world via social media was a part of students' lives.

The debate was whether or not this was a good thing. Most students could see both sides. They were terrified of losing connection but also exhausted with the Internet's superficiality.

"Social media distracted us from everything going on around us,"

by Mackenzie Bruce

Hashtag **FOREVER** Addicted

freshman Jacob Sellers said. "I really tried to check myself. I think people were more concerned with checking Facebook or Snapchat or Twitter, and all the time I'd see friends who were 'hanging out' just sitting on their phones."

Sellers thought people often used the Internet as a screen to hide behind or a way to boost an image of themselves they wanted everyone else to see, especially when it came to weekend plans. It seemed as if many would rather post the perfect Instagram picture or Snapchat story of their plans than enjoy the outing itself. But when staying in, many made sure to justify their lazy nights by tweeting about an awesome Netflix marathon.

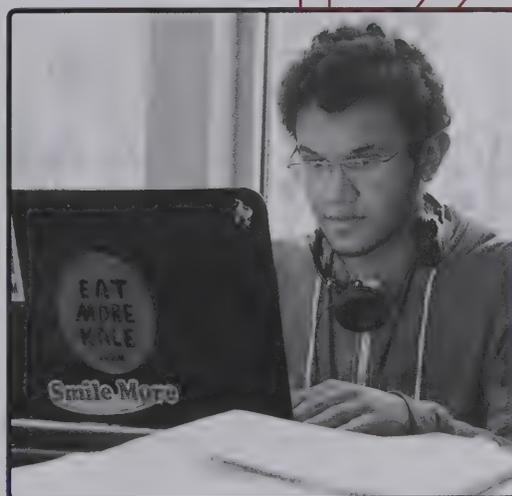
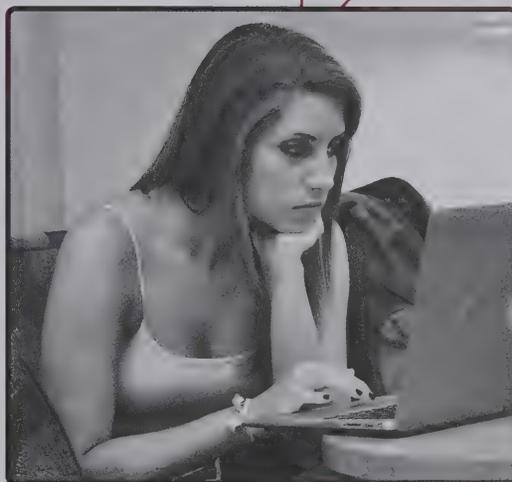
"It was just vanity," Sellers said. "We liked likes, we liked getting favorites on our tweets or up-votes on our yaks. You had a way to quantify [your popularity]."

While posting sometimes became a competition, those same likes and favorites could also be used positively. Whether movements as simple as #20beautifulwomen, which promoted finding beauty in oneself, or something as significant as #blacklivesmatter, which raised awareness about events in Ferguson, Mo., New York City and elsewhere across the nation, social media provided a platform of positive connections.

Students loved the connectivity. They could keep in touch with old friends, study-abroad buddies, family or new business connections. Some even turned to the Internet to find groups with similar interests they might not find locally. But whether it was keeping up with news, chatting about fandoms or sharing funny videos, social media kept people in the loop.

"Ah, I was such a sucker for those [viral videos]," sophomore Lindsey Moore said. "If it kind of caught my eye, I'd watch it."

No matter what went viral or quickly faded, keeping up was constant. Whether it was using Facebook to communicate with campus organizations, Twitter to read the latest news or Instagram for selfies, each program had its benefits and drawbacks. Either way, there was no wrong way to do social media.



Everyone needs a break. Sophomore Rene Perez uses gaming breaks to make studying more fun. | Sydney Blessinger

Carefully avoiding a wave of homework, freshman Emily Rohr decides to surf the web instead. | Bethany Boeglin



It is a phone photo-extravaganza! Everyone's snapping pictures while waiting for the procession to begin in Ford Center. Senior Stephanie Tran makes sure to get a shot with seniors Kelsey Williams, Mackenzie Powell and Sam Montgomery. | MaKayla Seifert



It's our last chance! Graduate students Eric Stoessel, Erin Wittmer and Laurel Spurgeon take a quick picture before it's time to find their places in line. | Taylor Williams

"Make your hair." President Thomas Kazee tells senior Olivia Tooker, whose purple bangs highlight the day. | MaKayla Seifert

Seniors Alexis Niese, Jaylon Moore and Alex Moore don't even try to hide it as they live-tweet with friends and family while Senor Bobbi Moskoff keeps her attention on the stage.

And all they can do now is sit and wait and wait and wait — or be ready for a LinC photograph with a camera. Having made their trip across the stage, seniors Allie Johnson, Emily Kriebler, Oriana Lada, Michael Mann and Meghan Becker hang out with their diploma cases. | Taylor Williams

The **BEGINNING** of Our End

This was the day. The day all others led to. The class of 2015 gathered together one last time: laughing, hugging, taking selfies and waiting for the event to start while family and friends filled Ford Center.

"I always thought it was cool that Commencement means 'the beginning of something,' because you always thought of it as the end," senior Molly Holthus said.

Before they knew it, graduates rushed to their assigned spots in line and finally walked out into the arena to sounds of Nikolai R姆斯ky-Korsakov's "Procession of the Nobles" and lively cheers. But the brief moment of pomp, circumstance and excitement began what all were secretly dreading — the wait.

Once the 548 graduates were seated, they semi-listened as President Thomas Kazee, SGA President Connor Donnelly and senior Nathan Graves, the keynote speaker, gave their parting thoughts.

Kazee then presented senior Hlawn Tlem with the Mabel Dillingham Nennecker Award and Graves with the Gutherie May Award, while Maggie Stevenson, assistant professor of psychology, received the Outstanding Teacher Award.

Anticipation grew again when it was finally time for seniors to shake hands with the president and get their diploma cover. After walking across the stage, most seniors smiled, some cheered, one danced and none fell. Once they sat again, many graduates got back on their phones to live-tweet using #UEGrad15 to talk to family and friends, only sporadically paying attention to the ceremony to cheer on friends.

Donnelly presented the feeling of the day, best when he told graduates that the day was about them. It was in fact, but symbolism didn't matter much to some graduates.

"This whole big thing was just 'Congratulations, you're done. Now get out of here,'" senior Rebecca Armstrong joked.

Graduates cared more about sharing the memory of the event with people they cared about — the ceremonial parts of it just took a lot of time. So they made sure phones were charged and rejoiced when they found out a friend was sitting close to them. Conversations were less about starting a new chapter in life and more about who was walking across the stage when or how many people were left.

Despite being told not to bring valuables, graduates snuck in everything from books to food — using hidden pockets, purses and fanny-packs to do so.

"This was the first and only day I've had to stuff things in my bra," senior Rachael McGill said.

When friends got hungry or caps started to slip, out came snacks and bobby pins, surreptitiously passed around in an attempt to limit distraction.

But when Kazee called for the graduates to stand the mood changed. Tasseis were moved from right to left, and graduates were relieved to be free, but also proud to have completed so much hard work.

"I was overwhelmed with the idea that the last four years had flown by so quickly," senior Anjelica Allen said. "It was very surreal. I couldn't believe it was over."

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FINAL GLORIOUS MOMENTS



"I was nervous and ready to get the whole thing started. I wanted to get it over with, but I wanted to savor it at the same time. It was complicated." —Rachael McGill



The excitement of Welcome Week's opening ceremony could not be contained in Carson Center's large gym. Freshmen Ben Simmons and Samantha Mackey proudly sport new UE T-shirts while waiting to meet their small group and officially begin the start of the school year. New friendships and memories began forming the moment they walked in the door. | Samantha Cook



IT'S Life

Nothing ever happened here. It was the age old saying. We said it about our hometowns, about Evansville, about UE. There was never anything to fill up our precious free time but studying and endless movie nights. But that was a lie. We knew there were things happening. They happened every year. UE Theatre put on productions. SAB hosted a movie every week. And there were always intramural games being played. Holidays even provided their own distractions. We knew this, just like we knew that whenever something different tried to become a thing it likely wouldn't be met with applause. We liked knowing exactly what was going to happen and how much fun it would be — or wouldn't be. Trying new things were for freshmen who were new to everything and seniors who wanted to fit in everything they had never tried before. These were the things we planned for and happily attended. The things we remembered — or vaguely remembered — fondly. Things like Welcome Week and MLK Day and Musical Madness and Bike Race. Every year they happened and every year was the same, and it made our lives in college.



The ice-cold water leaves freshmen Anne Dauber and Hannah Rowe speechless. | Samantha Cook

Freshmen Lauren Roberts, Kristen Fowler, Brittani Carroll and Kendra Mehling get silly. | Samantha Cook

With an arsenal at hand, freshmen Elizabeth Collier, Kaitlyn Parcell and Adam Devery take careful aim at their classmates. | Samantha Cook



PROUDLY WEARING Purple

ate August meant many things — excessive heat and humidity, expensive textbooks and the nearing of summer's end. But it also meant welcoming a brand-new class to UE through the long-standing tradition of orientation sessions, skits and events that was Welcome Week.

Beginning with raucous cheering from the Orientation Leaders and a human-made tunnel for new students to travel through, the opening session started loud and proud. Everyone played games like rock-paper-scissors and "Never Have I Ever" with more than 500 strangers. And after much fanfare with Ace Purple, freshmen received their identical class T-shirts.

"I didn't even know if they said, 'Put your purple shirts on,'" freshman Samantha Mackey said, "but everyone started doing it."

Those T-shirts would travel even farther than just Carson Center. They were worn again and again, starting with the Freshman Service Project, where students washed vehicles, picked up trash, sorted donated clothes and gardened fresh vegetables to help out at locations across town. Many people even made new friends and enjoyed the feeling of giving back.

"I very much had a heart for service," Mackey said. "I thought [the project] represented a lot of what service meant."

While there were a lot of activities throughout the week, there was also a fair amount of serious talking going on. The OLs introduced new policies such the College SaVE Act and the Responsible Good Neighbor Exemption, while senior Nathan Graves was instrumental in helping freshmen un-

derstand the "Because I said I would" campaign.

Dedicated to personal and social betterment, the movement was incorporated into the skits to acknowledge tough issues students could face while in college. Cards were given to the freshmen to make their own promises, whether it be fighting suicidal thoughts or being kinder to those around them.

"You could always rise above it," Graves said. "The current state you were in wasn't always where your life would end up."

Welcome Week was not simply about hard work, new things to think about and trying to recognize peers — the Olympics gave students time to play and act like children again. Even OLs added extra spice to the fun. Seniors Craig Schlemmer and Eric Stoessel volunteered at the dunking booth, taking the plunge while new students tested their pitching arms.

Both took turns taunting the freshmen, saying they couldn't throw well — often moments before being submerged into the chilly water. But many freshmen got their turn to get soaked during the traditional water balloon fight and this year's national "ALS Ice Bucket Challenge."

"Oh my — that was so cold!" freshman Anne Dauber said. "There was a split second when they dumped it on you and you couldn't breathe."

All these social events softened the mental toll that orientation sessions and meeting new people could take on a person, and letting loose made the transition into college life easier.

"We got to really enjoy the experience of having fun on campus," Mackey said.



532 new students started calling UE home with 76 transfers and 64 international students from more than 17 countries as part of the mix.



No suitcases here. Freshman Caitlin Day shoulders the clothes rack with her sister, Lauren, as Moore Hall becomes Day's new home. | Kate Sarber

Taking a well-deserved break from all that heavy lifting, senior Jessica Sumner and junior Sara Padgett rest in some shade by Powell Hall. | MaKayla Seifert



LIFTING & LOFTING

Families pulled into parking spaces, got a Post-It note with a room number stuck to their windshield and handed belongings over to a bunch of strangers. Whether they traveled 10 minutes or 10 hours, freshmen had a lot ahead of them on move-in day. Freshman Krista Lecher had two words for it.

"Hot and hectic," she said. "I had to wake up at 6:30 [a.m.] and I had to make sure I had all of my stuff in Dad's truck. Then I had to make sure I had everything I needed."

Some new students and parents took things calmly as they passed boxes and bags of bedding into the arms of volunteers. Other parents seemed more frazzled than their children.

But all benefited from the groups of movers, consisting mostly of Greek life members and a number of sports teams, who carted cases of water and minifridges up flights of stairs.

"It was nice because my book box weighed about 50 pounds," Lecher said, "and I was glad I didn't have to carry that."

While the movers were seasoned vets, freshmen didn't really know what was going on. For many, this wasn't a big deal, but the unknown caused others to be a little overwhelmed.

"It was the change," freshman Alex Langer said. "Change in living quarters, sharing space with someone I didn't know. I was a little terrified. It was the initial shift."



With the strength of Hercules and a wink to the ladies, junior Ethan O'Rourke proves it only takes the power of one man to carry a minifridge up the stairs of Hale Hall. | MaKayla Seifert



Lugging a heavy suitcase on a hot day isn't ideal, but seniors Henry Voss and Alex Miller share the load to help move a freshman into Moore Hall. | Kate Sarber



Amid the steady stream of overfilled vehicles, seniors Chris Norris and Anna Sheffer take a break from directing traffic to help unload someone's belongings. | MaKayla Seifert

by Mackenzie Bruce

UN-FORGETTABLE Encounters

It was all fun and games until someone grabbed your butt when you least expected it. Hypnotist Bruce McDonald reminded everyone that you should at least ask permission before you do, but no one really seemed to care as the antics of performers during the annual Welcome Week presentation kept people laughing and awestruck. The show always gave freshmen the chance to cut loose a little and officially made them members of the UE community. It was a rite of passage.

"I think it was something to take away from the stress of all the overwhelming information they gave us at the orientations," freshman Zoie Kruger said.

After a hectic few days of information overload, small group meetings and figuring out when to be where, the class of 2018 needed a laugh. And by the time the more than 30 volunteers climbed on stage, the audience was ready.

McDonald egged participants on, instructing them at different times to see him, the audience and themselves naked in front of everyone, much to the amusement of all. But what caused the biggest uproar was the suggestion that the volunteers make a new friend — by sitting on that new friend's lap. For freshman Hilary Rubio, her newest acquaintance wouldn't soon forget her.

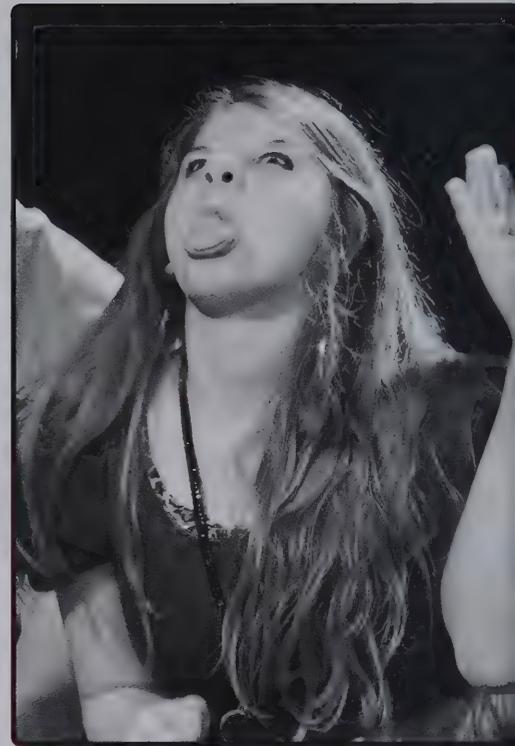
"Sitting on Dean [Dana] Clayton's lap," she said, "I didn't regret it, but I guess it was something kind of kooky."

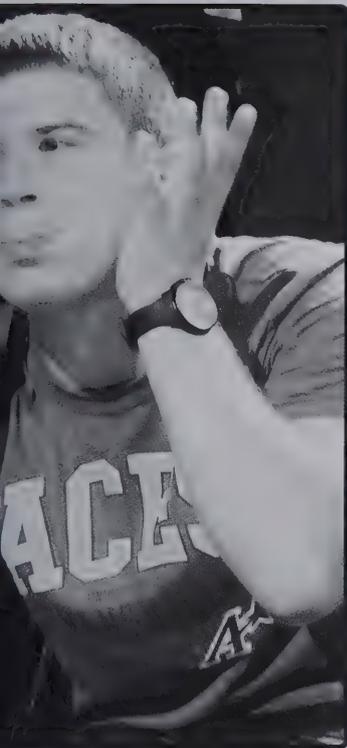
Most participants came away dazed, some describing a dream-like state of forgetfulness. Freshman Daniel Waskiewicz spent almost the entire show under the impression he was a Martian who did not speak English.

"I wish I could remember," he said. "That was the biggest thing. People didn't believe [I was hypnotized]."

After a series of unforgettable solos, romantic encounters and a semi-striptease dance by a group of men, those in the audience were ready to give their spellbound friends a hard time. One thing everyone had in common was this crazy experience and stories they could share for years to come.

"It definitely was an icebreaker for getting into the year," Kruger said. "I met a lot of people from it."

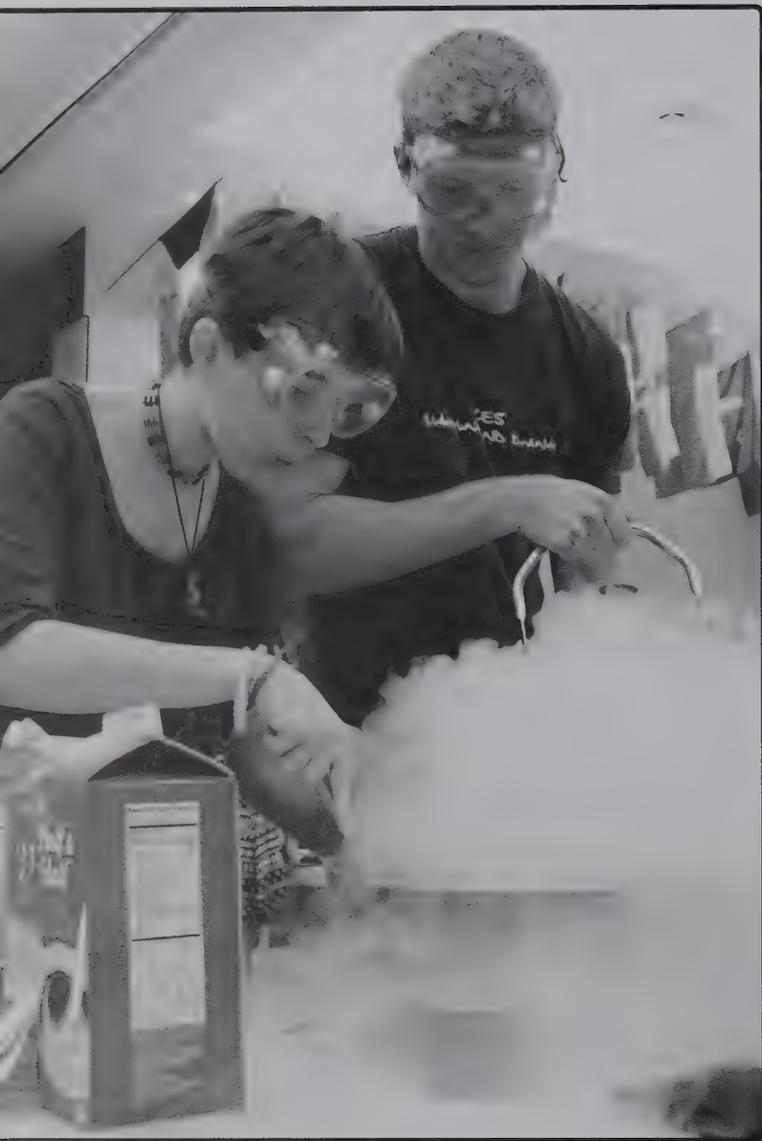




Stopping only when caught in the act, freshmen Hilary Rubio and Ethan Hoffeditz make silly faces at Bruce McDonald. | MaKayla Seifert

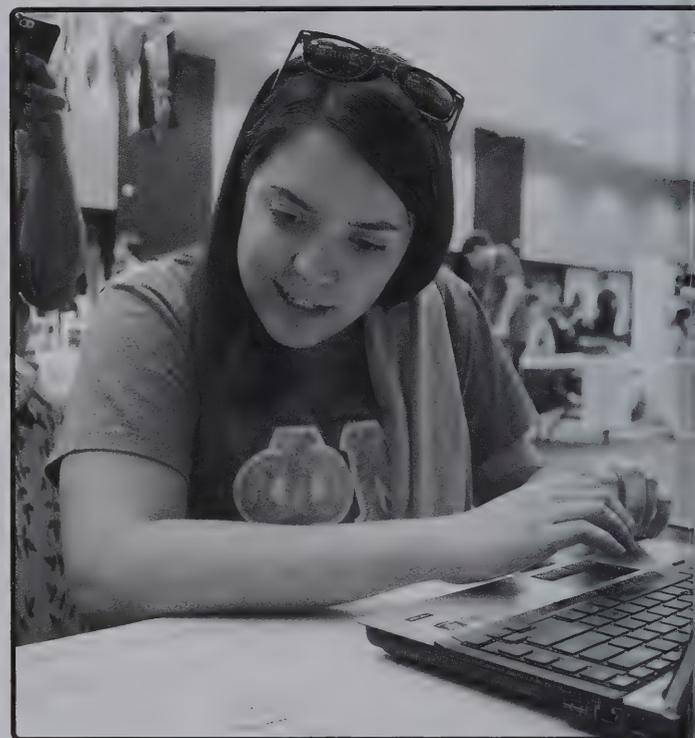
Channeling her inner Lady Antebellum, freshman Lindsey Lyons takes the stage to perform her version of "Bartender." | Kate Sarber

Lady Gaga certainly would be proud. Freshman Jacob Sellers, flanked by freshmen Caleb Williams and Zoie Kruger, works his way to the front of the group while singing "Pokerface." | Kate Sarber



Donning safety goggles, seniors Maggie Somody and Conor Sprick make some sweet ice cream with the help of chemistry. | MaKayla Seifert

Evidently senior Alyson Goffinet loves cats. She uploads a photo of hers so she can have it imprinted onto a koozie by SAB. | MaKayla Seifert



MAKING CONNECTIONS

Only at the Student Organizations Fair could liquid nitrogen, chocolate chip cookies and a cardboard cutout of Pope Francis end up in the same room. A steady stream of students wandered through Eykamp Hall late on a Friday afternoon inspecting the offerings of the 73 groups that sponsored tables.

"I didn't even ask for this," said freshman Elizabeth Daugherty, waving a bag full of goodies.

Many organizations got creative as they tried to attract attention. Newman Club gave away rosaries, Medieval Society displayed old apothecary bottles and SAB captured interest with customized phone cases and can koozies. At the Chem-

istry Club table, liquid nitrogen was used to make a statement, the rising steam and the lure of homemade ice cream attracting the attention of those with a sweet tooth.

Socially, students seemed to have a good time. Unfamiliar faces became familiar ones as the Bi-Sci Club piqued the interest of non-biology majors and the skeptical tried to mentally control a ball at the Cognitive Neural Science Research Group/Psi Chi table.

And who could forget the yearbook? Students could be found all over Ridgway Center reminiscing as they looked for themselves and their friends in the pages of the 2014 LinC.



Like many other students at the fair, junior Kaitlin Koenig and senior Monika Tate stop to take a picture with a cardboard cutout of Pope Francis at the Newman Club table. | MaKayla Seifert



With help from sophomore Matt Bryan, junior Mary Burst gears up to master Mindflex, a game sponsored by the Cognitive Neural Science Research Group. | MaKayla Seifert



"Aww look, there's my big." Senior Chissy Perl flips through her copy of the 2014 LinC and stops on pages where she recognizes friends. | MaKayla Seifert

While shooting hoops at a carnival station, senior Dimi Mayor-ga scores by throwing the ball over her shoulder, surprising sophomore Jalen Lee who is trying to make his own shot. | Willian Mallmann



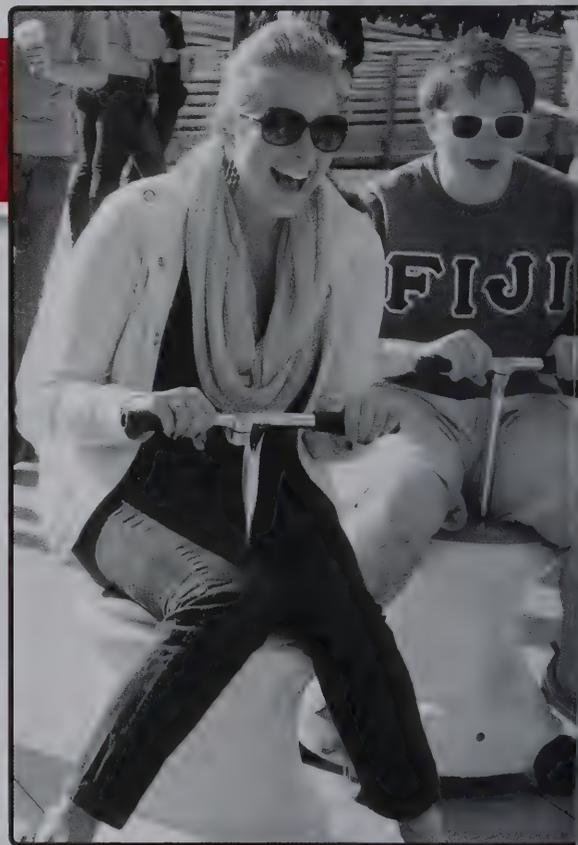
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pounds of savory corn dogs, salty popcorn, cotton candy and fruity snow cones kept students happy.



It's funny for both as junior Kelsey Robards waits for junior Kaylee Yager to create a perfect cotton candy masterpiece. | Amy Parker

The silliness of the unorthodox race doesn't stop junior Ashley Manka and sophomore Dane Turner from competing. | Amy Parker



by Katelyn Harbert

Come ONE, Come ALL



acing toilets, human inflatable spheres and tables full of free snacks were spread across McCutchan Stadium's courtyard as a way to entice students to join the fun at SAB's "Fall Carnival."

The circus-themed event was a new addition to the semester's activities and replaced Homecoming, which was being revamped and would return the next year. But for this year at least, as popular music drowned out the October wind and a handful of organizations offered fun things to do, the carnival turned out to be the place to be during the break between the men's and women's soccer games.

It was a day of kid-like activities. The human-sized hamster balls immediately caught students' attention and those wild enough to jump inside and use the momentum of their bodies to race the oversized balls suddenly understood the world from a rodent's perspective.

"It was crazy," senior Tyler Wong said. "I wanted to go again but I was tired. It was kind of scary sometimes because it was like you were going to crash on the ground."

While volunteers kept the human hamsters safe by redirecting wayward balls, a few other groups had more things people could do. Chi Omegas painted faces while the Philosophy Club traded deep-thinking questions for mystery-flavored punch. Delta Omega Zeta offered corn dogs, everyone's favorite meal on a stick, and Alpha Omicron Pi handed out snow cones, despite the biting fall temperature.

There seemed to be enough entertainment to keep people satisfied. After testing out the inflatables and stocking up on something to eat, everyone who wanted a chance got to race around the courtyard on what became the most attention-grabbing attraction at the carnival — mobilized toilets.

While one toilet was undoubtedly faster than the other, it didn't seem to matter as everyone loved driving the porcelain imposters and trying to outdo the other.

"I had to ride that," senior Kendra Streicher said. "There was no way I was leaving there without riding a toilet."

Later that evening, juggler Charles Peachock fascinated students with tricks and gimmicks, even inviting a few on stage to help with his act. The audience's laughter was the telltale sign that his talented hands and witty banter were appreciated. And it was great end to the circus-like day.



Remaining as still as he can while holding a cigarette in his mouth, junior Nick Schuetz waits for juggler Charles Peachock to toss the pins around his head. | Willian Mallmann



No more guts and slime in this autumn squash. Sophomore Francis Prexl has a carving knife at the ready to carve her pumpkin. | MaKayla Seifert

Using the accuracy of a small carving knife and careful hands, freshman Sydney Winstead skillfully sculpts her design. | MaKayla Seifert



GUTS GALORE

Goopy seeds, empty candy wrappers and popular spooky tunes all meant one thing — Halloween. Surrounded by the familiar ambience, domestic and international students created 40 pumpkin masterpieces at the International Club's pumpkin-carving event. First-time sculptors were wary of getting covered in slimy strings and seeds, but others dove right in with carving tools and their hands. Most were interested since it was not a part of their celebration back home.

"People dressed up and went to nightclubs, but that was it," Russian exchange student Inna Berchatova said. "We didn't do anything with pumpkins [but] I'd always wanted to try."

While laughter and jokes came easy to carvers, so did sighs of exasperation when gutting the pumpkins proved difficult. Though it was an international event, a handful of domestic students — mainly athletes and members of Greek life — joined in on the messy fun. They all came together to make the perfect jack-o'-lanterns. Most seeds ended up in a nearby trash can — unless senior Mara Huber snatched them first.

"I am going to bake them and make delicious treats with them," she said.

Whether it was the first time or one of countless carvings, the pumpkin-themed event exhibited the essence of October.



Maybe he's got beginner's luck. With friends yelling proper carving techniques to him, sophomore Hassan Taki Eddin sticks a knife into his first pumpkin alongside sophomore Gilang Chiara for a long-lasting memory. | MaKayla Seifert



With freshly cleaned hands and carved pumpkins, sophomores Hayli Scott and Ashlee Kwall commemorate a softball team bonding experience. | MaKayla Seifert

After countless attempts to make an opening in her pumpkin, freshman Maram Almuqbil finally succeeds and gives her creation a frightening face. | MaKayla Seifert



Could've had it ALL

Nothing ever goes as planned. There are times where people feel as though they've lost control or when the consequences of their actions overwhelm them.

In the fall productions of "The Wild Party" and "Macbeth," the performers played characters who came up against such moments. Both shows took place during times when everything the characters are working toward falls apart.

"The Wild Party" was a musical set in New York City in 1928, and it told the story of Queenie and Burrs (seniors Oriana Lada and Robin Coppock). It begins with Queenie pushing Burrs away and deciding to fix her abusive relationship by throwing a party. But in between the singing and dancing, the characters lose themselves.

"In watching the characters, they become increasingly more intoxicated and wild," Lada said. "I don't necessarily say it's a downward spiral, more like a snowball, like a roller coaster and they're on the ride down."

As the musical's characters slipped more into drunkenness, the music stayed upbeat despite the song's lyrics becoming more serious, like in "Come With Me."

Madness caused by ambition led to the downfall of the Macbeths (seniors Ben Anderson and Emily Daly) in "Macbeth." Lady Macbeth's madness is more internal. She goes from a commanding woman who would unsex herself to one who cannot clean imagined blood from her hands.

As Macbeth kills people to secure his power, he becomes more unstable. He even goes as far as seeing the ghost of Banquo (junior Dylan Crow) at a party.

"[Macbeth is] clearly not doing too well himself," Daly said. "They're both dealing with post-traumatic stress, but in different ways. It kind of fuels him in what he does and it kind of destroys her."

In both plays, the characters want control. In "Macbeth," the Weird Sisters (senior Olivia Hebert, junior Devin Fluker and sophomore Jasmine Maletta) were present in non-speaking scenes, suggesting they manipulated more than Macbeth knew. He believes he can navigate fate as he pleases, but the price of control for the char-

acters in both productions is not what they think it is.

In "The Wild Party," the party begins with the song "What A Party," but then one of the last ensembles is "Let Me Drown." It starts off with a great party and then goes to the characters singing about how they just want to be left to drink and die. The Macbeths go from being well-respected by their peers to being usurped. They do not lose control in the same way.

"As the play goes on and Macbeth becomes stronger, she weakens," Daly said. "He becomes the ambitious one, and she becomes the one overwhelmed by the guilt and loses her mind and eventually kills herself. As he becomes more in control, she loses what control she has."

Both leading women feel they can make what they want to happen, happen. Queenie sets in motion the musical by coming up with the idea for a party to get back at Burrs for hitting her. She thinks she has a good handle on things. She will show Burrs how special she is by having an affair with Black (junior DeYonte Jenkins) but she learns she cannot control it all.

Lady Macbeth convinces her husband to screw his courage to the sticking-post and kill Duncan (senior Anders Nerheim), and she is the one who keeps nobles loyal when he begins to break down. But as the guilt of her actions eat away at her, she can no longer do that.

"She's a very good actress," Daly said. "She's able to be cordial to all of these men, and as it goes on she loses that, and they see what's really going on. She's very good at keeping up appearances at the beginning."

While Lady Macbeth manipulates others, her desires cause many murders. Queenie's group is no better. All of the characters use those around them to be the life of the party. In the two productions, the performers showed how a party of any type can get out of control.

"There were themes of deceit and manipulation and masking things when everyone was just lying to themselves and others," senior Maryam Abdi said. "It's a party, these sorts of things happen at parties. 'People die and parties fail!'"



Preparing to commit an act of treason, Macbeth and Lady Macbeth (seniors Ben Anderson and Emily Daly) plot Duncan's death. | Taylor Williams

New to town, Black (junior DeYonte Jenkins) hears about the party and decides to check it out. When Queenie (senior Oriana Lada) first meets the mysterious Black, she is instantly attracted to him. | MaKayla Seifert



Stirring up trouble, sophomore Jasmine Maletta, senior Olivia Herbert and junior Devin Fluker as the Weird Sisters gather at the flames to cast spells and wreak havoc. | Taylor Williams



While preparing for the party, Burrs (senior Robin Coppock) clownes around in front of his dancer girlfriend, Queenie. | Bethany Boeglin





These gentlemen — seniors Jason Salo and Alex Henderson; junior Ian Murrell; sophomores Timothy Schaefer, Eric Meuer, Ryder Burns, Matt Abele, Nick Smith and Joseph Schwalb; and freshmen Aaron Gonner and Adam Smith — sing “God Rest ye Merry, Gentlemen.” | MaKayla Seifert



Sophomores Madison Petty, Kay Sheers, Cindy White and Emma Kelley and freshmen Carlene Widmer and Chris Rogers perform “O Come, All Ye Faithful.” | MaKayla Seifert



Filling the air with festive music are freshman Kaitlyn Lowe and senior Katy Von Der Heide. | Sadie Wacker

by Mackenzie Bruce

JUST HEAR THOSE SLEIGH BELLS

Snippets of familiar Christmas melodies mingling with the muted conversations of the audience drifted through Victory Theatre as the Symphony Orchestra warmed up before an evening of instrumental and vocal music.

In its 35 years, Holiday Pops brought the talents of the Music Department to the Evansville community and students preparing to finish up their fall semester. And like all other years, the Victory stage was alight both in music and decoration.

"The funny thing was, there wasn't a lot of Christmas carols played," senior Katy Von Der Heide said. "Sometimes it was just music that related to Christmas in some way."

Although the program stayed away from what many thought of as the classics, it didn't mean the tunes were unfamiliar. Pieces such as Leroy Anderson's "Sleigh Ride" and Tchaikovsky's "Nutcracker Ballet" had been traditionally performed throughout the years, while oth-

ers focused on choral aspects, like in "The Call" by Ralph Vaughan Williams.

While the department sponsored a number of ensembles that included more than 200 students, this year's concert brought the larger groups to the stage. The orchestra performed first, followed by the String and Wind ensembles, the University Choir and the Men's and Women's choruses. Some pieces even brought them together in collaboration such as when the orchestra, choir and choruses performed Williams' "Five Mystical Songs," with a solo by baritone Eric McCluskey, assistant professor of music.

"It was the only time the whole Music Department got together for a concert," senior Kirby Dawson said. "It was one where everyone got to participate."

Students aided in the planning and marketing of the concert as they tried to bring as many people to the Victory as possible. And the event also gave vocal artists and musicians the chance to

demonstrate their skills to those outside of campus. Each group practiced at least a month in advance, in the midst of final projects, papers and other obligations. But to the experienced performer like Von Der Heide, who performed in the orchestra as well as other ensembles, the concert was just like another final exam.

"I was on stage the entire time," she said. "I didn't perform every piece but I was on stage the entire time."

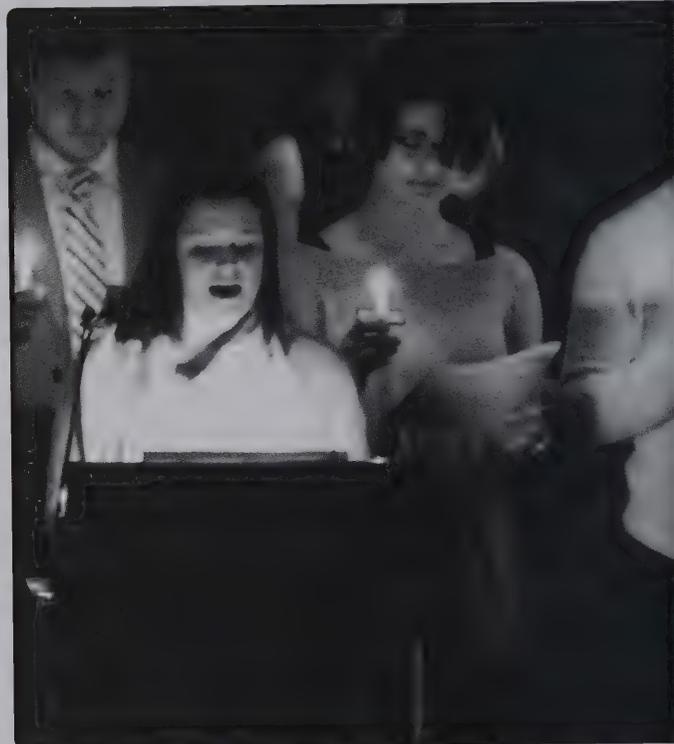
Over the years, Pops became a way to help the community and students rekindle their holiday spirit. The customary performance of Anderson's "A Christmas Festival" brought Purple Santa to the stage to lead the audience in a sing-along of everyone's favorite holiday tunes.

"I loved that we did Holiday Pops every year," Von Der Heide said. "I thought it was a nice way to incorporate the community. Everyone likes Christmas music, so it was a good way to get people to listen and maybe come to our other concerts."



Lighting the candles of President Thomas Kazee and his wife, Sharon, junior Peter Orkiszewski moves down the aisle during the service. | Kate Sarber

Ending the service, sophomores Nick Raupp, Sami Peery and Aaron Evans and freshman Anna Ahrens read the last verse. | Kate Sarber



REASON FOR THE SEASON

Churchgoers filtered into Neu Chapel, settling into the soft light of the sanctuary for the annual Candlelight Advent Vespers service. Unlike a traditional church service, the event celebrated the narrative of the foretelling and birth of Christ through scripture, song and candles.

University Choir and Kantorei alternated performances that accompanied the readings. Sophomores Aaron Evans and Nick Raupp and freshmen Anna Ahrens and Kudzaishie Mandingwa shared verses that told stories of the season.

One of the lessons included the announcement of Mary carrying the Son of God, as read by Ahrens, and the choir pre-

ceded the story with Francis Poulenc's "Ave Maria." The music was key to bringing people in for the service.

"A lot of my friends were in the choir and I loved Christmas music," sophomore Vickie Huber said. "My favorite part was 'Silent Night' and having just the candles."

As they sang Franz Xaver Gruber's "Silent Night," the congregation stood while the acolytes, juniors Peter Orkiszewski and Jessica Lord, lit their candles. The candles let students reflect on their faith or simply enjoy the glowing light. Vespers was not only a recognition of the holiday, but a celebration of the birth of Christ.



On a brisk night, people seek refuge in Neu Chapel for warmth, hymns and traditional Christmas songs. Sophomore Laura Dalto leads the songs in front of the congregation. | MaKayla Seifert



Gliding down the aisle, junior Jessica Lord lights the candles of those close by. As the light is passed on, the rows begin to get brighter. | MaKayla Seifert



As a member of Kantorei, junior Lily Mast adds her voice to the enchanting music echoing throughout Neu Chapel. | Kate Sarber



Among the marchers, junior Adam Anthony helps others to remember injustices that occurred to African Americans years ago. | MaKayla Seifert



by Joy Grace Chen

HISTORY BROUGHT TO LIFE

The past repeated itself more often than not, and this year's Martin Luther King Jr. Day had special significance due to the racial conflict in Ferguson, Mo., New York City and other places in the U.S. Although the Civil Rights Movement had come a long way, it still had a ways to go.

"We had to be careful not to white-wash history," junior Joey Estes said. "In order to avoid the mistakes of the past, you had to remember what happened."

On a day full of activities that honored and remembered King and the past, students, faculty, staff and members of the Evansville community came together to experience historical events.

Before embarking on a re-enactment of the 1963 Civil Rights March on Washington through the nearby streets surrounding campus, people took a moment to consider every aspect, from the meaning of the original march to the placards commemorating injustices and the movement's successes, that highlighted the im-

portance of keeping the past alive.

And the day's emphasis on experiencing history continued throughout the afternoon as people lined up by a bus parked on the Front Oval for the Rosa Parks Bus Re-enactment tour.

To represent 1955's segregated Montgomery, Ala., bus system, participants were either directed into the "white" section of the bus or told to board the "black" section from the bus' back door.

Those taking the tour witnessed Parks refusing to give up her seat to a white man — an experience that gave not just spectators but also the actors the chance to be a part of this historical moment.

For each tour, the actors switched roles, so Parks was not always black, or even female. This was planned so everyone would identify with the Rosa Parks in themselves and remember that MLK Day celebrated a milestone for everyone.

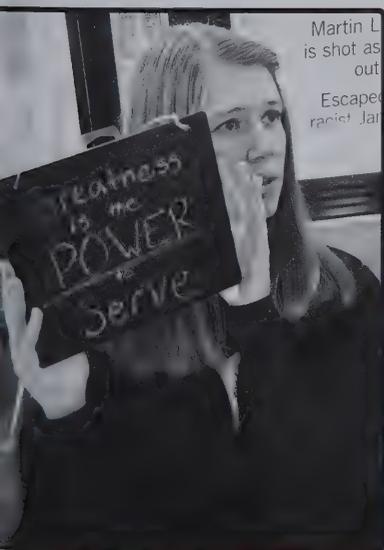
"What MLK did may have focused on African-American rights, but it was really

for all of diversity," senior Violet Barrs said.

Poet Ramona L. Hyman, associate professor of humanities at Loma Linda University, captivated the audience at the evening's lecture in Eykamp Hall with her dramatic and interactive retelling of Parks' story. Her talk was preceded by performances from Black Student Union, including a song and a reading of Langston Hughes' "A Dream Deferred."

A showing the following day of 2014's "Dear White People," a satirical movie depicting African-American students at a fictional Ivy League school, covered current issues, combined with reminders of present-day racial violence. It also urged those involved in MLK Day to remember that the advancements in equality came from the actions of brave people from more than a half century ago.

"It was important to realize this was a big deal," junior Adam Anthony said. "It was not just a chapter in your history book."



While more than 50 years have passed since the 1963 Civil Rights March on Washington, its significance is still felt. Leading the other marchers in the re-enactment are freshman Marks Cannon, sophomore Jamye Wilburn and senior Violet Barrs. | MaKayla Seifert

Serving as a volunteer, freshman Elizabeth Collier holds a sign reinforcing one of Martin Luther King Jr.'s strongest beliefs. | Willian Mallmann

As she portrays Rosa Parks on that fateful day, junior Brookelle Bailey sits in the portion of the bus reserved for black people. | Willian Mallmann

Calling ALL Heroes

Superheroes came to UE in a way never seen before. During Musical Madness they saved campus, combated USI supervillains and had Road Trippers and students laughing at the antics of the four performing teams.

With all of the Greek-centered philanthropies, Musical Madness saw Greeks and independents taking the stage together.

"Having organizations like Student Publications and RSA participate let organizations mingle and work together toward a common goal," senior Rebecca Armstrong said.

Madness was a different combination of groups working together under a common theme every year. But to put on the best performance possible, students had to take time out of their busy schedules to revise and rehearse their skits. And learning dance moves and practicing UE-themed songs also took time. With so much preparation and hard work, everyone involved couldn't wait to see the results.

"I was really excited because when practicing you had no idea what to expect from the other groups," freshman Caleb Chesnut said. "After the first night, I thought our team might have a shot."

While practice started early in the spring semester, Armstrong and senior Jason Salo, this year's directors, began to organize the event and coordinate the teams in October.

Writers and directors for each of the four teams spent their own time

creating their skits and putting together their casts.

"It was your baby and you never knew how it was going to go," junior Pete Stremming said. "And you never knew if the jokes you'd written were as good as you thought they were."

Writers strived to relate their scripts to UE, and that usually meant that daily campus occurrences and happenings turned into jokes.

Rabid squirrels attacked in Chi Omega, Phi Kappa Tau and Sigma Alpha Iota's "Road Trip 2015: A Squirrelly, Rainy, Super-Wonderful Bonanza." And laughs were produced at Sodexo's expense when Sigma Phi Epsilon, Student Publications and Zeta Tau Alpha's "The Guardians of the E-Ville" compared Sodexo offerings to prison food.

But it was Alpha Omicron Pi, RSA and Sigma Alpha Epsilon's "Aquaman and the Quest to Make It Rain" that earned first place along with the crowd pleaser award.

The evening ended with lots of applause as sophomores Jamie Kowalczyk, from Chi O, and Timothy Schaefer, from Sig Ep, were named best directors, while junior Katherine Eckert, an AOPi, and Chesnut, an SAE, earned best actor honors.

But best of all, Madness raised \$2,930 for the Evansville-Vanderburgh School Corp.'s All-Star Marching Band to assist members who traveled to perform.



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students from 12 different organizations worked to make Musical Madness heroic.





The “X-Men’s” Wolverine (freshman Ryan DeHoff) and Cyclops (freshman Kevin Robkin) check out the new women on campus. The two argue over who saw a certain woman first with Taylor Swift’s “You Belong with Me.” | MaKayla Seifert

Junior Charlie Matias and sophomore Arielle Piper sing a UE-themed “Little Mermaid” song. | MaKayla Seifert

Sophomore Vickie Huber, junior Becca Laskey and senior Emily Naas sing praise for Superman. | MaKayla Seifert

Yondu (junior Jessika Collins) and Peter Quill (sophomore Timothy Schaefer) from “Guardians of the Galaxy” talk about college. | Kate Sarber



When senior Mara Huber finds herself in the snow after being tackled, freshman Connor Micklo stumbles over to see if she is OK. | MaKayla Seifert

Before she has a chance to arm herself with her own ammunition, freshman Marlaina Eveslage pummels freshman Brittany Pederson. | Taylor Williams



A BLANKET OF WHITE

Students received a pleasant surprise early one February morning and then again in March when campus was closed. The cold weather that had plagued them finally brought along something they could be thankful for — snow days.

Wearing boots, hats and heavy coats to keep them warm, students who were used to this type of weather navigated the snow with ease while others trudged along in whatever concoction of layers they could find.

Snowmen and snow angels were everywhere, and those that stayed hunkered down in their residence halls could hear the squeels from the snowball fights happening outside.

"I got to watch a lot of students building forts for a raging snowball fight," freshman Zoie Kruger said. "It was funny to see people sliding around and attacking their peers with giant clumps of snow."

Those that rarely experienced snow were thrilled by it, and they spent the day outside. But others did not find the sudden freeze so enjoyable. Annoyed with the icy obstacle it presented, they avoided slipping and sliding at all cost.

"I had three friends come into my house at 8:30 in the morning and pound on my door until I answered," junior Tia Balmer said. "They wanted me to go outside. I said 'no.'"



Every time someone leaves the Sigma Phi Epsilon house, everyone outside runs to the doors to cover the unsuspecting exiters in snow. Senior Jessie Earle lets senior Kelsey Edens fend for herself as friends coat Edens in snow. | MaKayla Seifert



Dog pile. Junior William Johns and sophomore Evan Pierce pull freshman Zach Reiff down as sophomore Madeline N. Smith does her best to add some more snow. | Kate Sarber



Bounding quickly down the snow-covered sidewalk, senior Kelie Rihm is chased and finally tackled into the soft slush by senior Kendra Streicher. | Kate Sarber

Unsatisfactory

MOMENTS



Life was never black or white. It was never easy, and even when searching for salvation in genuine human connection, the toughest of characters lost something in a way that was haunting and heartbreaking.

In UET's spring productions of "Dancing at Lughnasa" and "A Streetcar Named Desire," characters came up against the harshest moments of life, ones of desperation, loneliness and passion. Both plays were infused with the playwrights' own difficult memories, which created stories that stayed with the actors and audiences long after the last curtain.

Written by Irish dramatist Brian Friel, "Lughnasa" is set in the fictional town of Ballybeg in August 1936. Michael Evans (junior Henry Ragan) opens the production, reflecting back on his childhood and the summer when his uncle, Father Jack (sophomore Chris Brumley), comes home from Africa. With Michael, the audience experiences the recollections of his family and the deep and complex relationships found in their little home.

"[We wanted to see] discovery from Michael each night and what he thought he knew and look at the intricacies of memory," said senior Hailey Suggs, the production's dramaturg. "Not, 'Hey remember this cool thing?' [We saw] what we could have forgotten and how a child's memory could distort reality."

Although 7-year-old Michael spends most of his time outside and his perception of the adults often changes, the memories of his mother and aunts are presented with an element of reality. Maggie (senior Maryam Abdi) kneads dough or sets for tea, while Agnes and Rose (juniors Katelyn Kidwell and Grace Theobald) always knit.

The constant presence of Michael's kite defines his summer in a visual way — through a tree made of ribbon. Sound also makes Michael's summer distinct. A radio brings music and a sliver of happiness to the family. But it also generates the most passionate scene, a dance to express all frustrations and strains of living in rural Ireland on little to no income.

"The dance was so symbolic of how pent up the sisters were," Abdi said. "We all knew these shrieks were strange to Michael. It was really just a release. They kind of all knew they were going to be stuck there their whole lives, so it was filled with regret and remorse and anger and anguish. It was such a guttural feeling."

In Tennessee Williams' play, the sounds of New Orleans work against southern belle Blanche DuBois (senior Olivia Hebert) in her quickly crumbling life. After losing her family's home, she visits her younger sister, Stella (Suggs), and Stella's husband, Stanley Kowalski (senior Christopher Hailey), as she tries to survive with some sort of semblance of the life she hoped to have.

But she soon finds that the dark and dirty streets of the French Quarter are stifling, and not just from the heat. Blanche ultimately moves in with Stella and Stanley. With only a curtain to separate her from their bedroom and a screen door between all of them and the street, Stella is surrounded by this harsh reality, and the constant shouts from street vendors, fighting neighbors and Stanley's friends are a life Blanche cannot handle.

"Anything that hit her made her pull herself together more, and there's only so much pulling yourself together a person could do," Hebert said. "It is uncomfortable for Blanche, and the fact that it's comfortable for people like Stanley challenged her even more."

Both productions displayed the desperate need for human connection between characters, but they also break those connections. Agnes and Rose leave for the city in hopes of work, and Stella institutionalizes Blanche. Audiences are left with a harsh and heavy feeling, proving that no matter how much one dances, drinks or reaches out to others, everything they know was just a blurry memory of life's disappointing choices.

"We didn't judge it, we didn't say they did this because they were bad or they did this because they were good," Hebert said. "They did this because they were trying to survive."



Concerned for their sister, Kate (junior Samie Johnson) and Maggie (senior Maryam Abdi) listen as Rose (junior Grace Theobald) pleads to be loved by a man just like Gerry loves Chris. | MaKayla Seifert

Holding her close, Gerry (junior T.J. Baldassare) looks lovingly into the sunset with Chris (sophomore Hannah Connally). | MaKayla Seifert



Tensions escalate as Blanche DuBois (senior Olivia Hebert) explains to her brother-in-law, Stanley Kowalski (senior Christopher Hailey), how Belle Reve, the family home, was lost. | Taylor Williams



While cleaning the small, cramped apartment, Stella (senior Hailey Suggs) reminisces with her sister, Blanche. | Taylor Williams



Freshmen Blake Adams, Jacob Ball and Connor Micklo can only wait for the ball as freshman Phillip Rumler tries to block junior Mark Speckhard. | Willian Mallmann

Sophomore Michelle Karp's height benefits her as she skillfully dribbles past seniors Cassie Gilham and Becky Calahan toward the basket. | Willian Mallmann



I'M PLAYING TO WIN

Whether it was dominating another team in floor hockey or making digs during a sand volleyball match, students knew that intramurals would happen every year. Even with a couple of spunky additions to the lineup, the purpose of IMs was never lost on its most faithful players. And in between schoolwork and other responsibilities, students were always looking for other activities so they could release pent-up energy. Running around a field or a court definitely allowed for that.

"It gave me an excuse to get away from studying, basically," graduate student Joe Klein said. "And when were you going to get to play inner tube basketball of all things?"

While some found moving their bodies a mammoth undertaking, others were either dead serious about winning a league championship or were in it for the fun.

"We just liked to be goofy with it," junior Emma Simonson said, "but we'd be competitive."

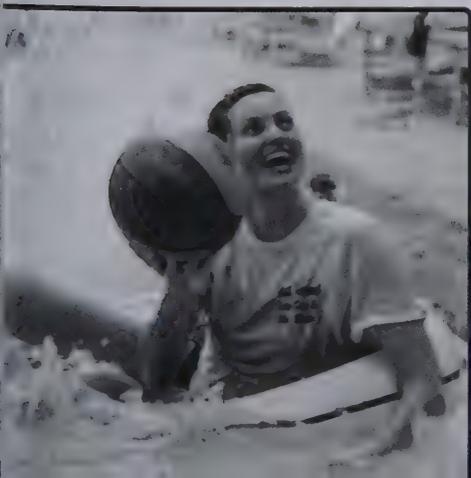
While inner tube basketball was one addition, powerlifting was added for those itching to show off their expanding muscles and their lifting skills. And there were always classics like Ultimate Frisbee, Euchre, soccer and racquetball. Events gave students a way to take their minds off their long to-do lists, and that was the point of IMs — to show a little spirited fun.



There's nothing like a game of inner tube basketball. Freshman Chris Wigand struggles to gain momentum as he kicks his way over to the ball, and junior Ryan Lasley wiggles past him, tipping Wigand into the water along the way. | Kate Sarber



As graduate student Ryan Bolenbaugh drops the ball, senior Kyle Schwinghamer faces off against Adam Salminen, associate professor of mathematics, as their teammates, junior Korey Brock and Timothy O'Brien, assistant professor of sociology, prepare for the pending action. | Sadie Wacker



Never give up. Senior Mary Beth Niese is having a good time as she struggles to score for the Alpha Omicron Pi team during an inner tube basketball game against Zeta Tau Alpha. | Kate Sarber

Rocking OUT with a small Crowd

Colored lights flashed and everything was set up and ready, but Ford Center was unusually quiet for Sunset Concert. Despite a more lethargic mood and a lower turnout, O.A.R. put on a show that had the audience cheering by the end.

Even with UE students getting free tickets and USI students paying a nominal price, the center was far from full when the concert began. The small number of attendees might have been due to the relative anonymity of the bands performing, but it also created a more intimate setting.

"It was less crowded than I thought it'd be, so that was nice," junior Kelly Danahy said. "I didn't know the band so I was just hoping for good music."

The music seemed doubtful at first when the opening band, The Wind and the Wave, performed without their drummer, who was stuck in an airport. Once headliner O.A.R. came on-stage, the crowd started to make some noise. This rock band from Rockville, Md., launched into their music without introducing themselves until two songs had already played.

"I always forget to say hello because I love to play music," lead singer Marc Roberge said. "And you guys gave us the opportunity to play music — thank you."

O.A.R. varied their sound throughout the concert, playing more popular hits like "Shattered" and "Peace" as well as love songs like "Place to Hide." Many songs featured solos that handed the stage over to guitarist Richard On or saxophonist Jerry DePizzo. Students cheered when the spotlights landed on each band member, appreciating the men's musical talent as much as their good looks.

"The one with the saxophone was very handsome," sophomore Chunyu Lin said.

After O.A.R. left the stage, the shouts of the audience brought the band back for a softer encore — "I Feel Home" played only with two guitars. The energy jumped again, and playing cards were tossed into the audience as the concert ended. Despite the smaller crowd, O.A.R. made Sunset Concert their own, to the delight of attendees who already knew their music and first-time listeners. For many students, the concert brought the semester to a pleasant close.

"It was a great way to end a fantastic junior year," junior Cameron Roberts said.



Freshman Annie Stenftenagel and sophomore Matt Childress find time for a slow dance. | MaKayla Seiff



There are many firsts and lasts of college. Senior Joel Craig and his friend, University of Missouri senior Shawn Bakersfield, along with freshman Grace Carter, rock out during O.A.R.'s performance. | MaKayla Seifert

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T-shirts with the Sunset Concert logo were given away to those concert goers who just couldn't get enough T-shirts



Hands in the air, senior Peter May claps along to the beat of O.A.R.'s "Two Hands Up." | MaKayla Seifert



Invisible microphones at the ready, sophomores Lexie May, Olivia Butterman and Zach Shrum rock out in perfect sync with O.A.R. as sophomore Aaron Powell and senior Dimi Mayorga follow suit. | MaKayla Seifert



A very nosy Miss Pinkerton (junior Alexandra Billhartz) is rushed out the door in "The Old Maid and the Thief." | MaKayla Seifert

In "A Hand of Bridge," Bill (freshman Colin Dawson) thinks about his affair while playing cards with Geraldine (freshman Gabriella Federico). | MaKayla Seifert



THREE SHOWS IN ONE

Encompassing theatrical and musical art that created a well-rounded opera, "Mostly Menotti" gave audiences more than they expected. The unusual show offered three one-act American operas — "The Telephone," "A Hand of Bridge" and "The Old Maid and the Thief" — and focused on composer Gian Carlo Menotti, who composed two of the three operas and provided the libretto for all three.

Set in the 20th century, this collection was modern compared to operas performed in the past. And they were funny. "The Telephone" evoked laughs as a man tried to propose to his chatty girlfriend; "A Hand of Bridge" focused on

the thoughts of the card players; and "The Old Maid and the Thief" showcased a handsome beggar and a servant stealing from an old maid. The complex music also challenged the performers with hundreds of pages of scored songs.

"We had to run it like a million times to make sure we had it," senior Emily Naas said.

Any trace of nervousness disappeared when the cast appeared on stage. They captivated everyone with their stories.

"The performance was my favorite part," senior Alex Henderson said. "You got this adrenaline rush and [you knew] your hard work had paid off."



With an engagement ring in his pocket, Ben (senior Alex Henderson) waits for Lucy (junior Payton Judd) to get off the phone in order to ask her that "important question" before catching his train in a scene from "The Telephone." | MaKayla Seifert



Is that you on the phone? Lucy (junior Payton Judd) obsessively gossips on the phone in "The Telephone" instead of paying attention to her beau. | MaKayla Seifert.



Surprised that a beggar could be handsome, Laetitia (sophomore Hannah Nilsen) admires his looks in "The Old Maid and the Thief." | MaKayla Seifert

by Millie Harlow

Come RAIN or HUMIDITY

Any outdoor event is subject to weather problems. Cloudy skies and showers plagued the days leading up to Bike Race, and many feared the race would be rained out both Saturday and Sunday, and not happen at all.

"It would have been upsetting because the people who were racing, they had been practicing really hard," sophomore Cassie Peterson said. "We would have been upset, but we still would have recognized the riders for all their hard work."

Luckily, Saturday was a beautiful, clear day. Starting as early as 8:30 a.m., people bordered H-lot in droves. While facing a high of 80 degrees and 93 percent humidity, students and recent alumni hung onto the wire fence or sat in couches compliments of some of the fraternities.

Most of the observers were Greek, proudly wearing their letters or race day shirts — some with race-themed quotes from cyclist Greg LeMond or 1 Corinthians — but the day enticed those not affiliated to join the street party, too. Yet for many, what kept them excited as the afternoon wore on was supporting their friends.

"It was fun watching them going through the turns and watching them get pumped when we cheered," freshman Kendall Turner said. "And as they got more and more pumped, we cheered louder and louder."

The day was not just about spectators. Racers put in months of training, and their pushers and catchers were there from start to finish on race day. Not everyone could be a part of the party atmosphere until after their races were over, but it was more an honor than a sacrifice.

"It was fun but in a different way because you were a part of the race itself," senior Mike McManus said. "It was still fun, but a little more tense. You were concerned for the riders, so you watched them go around and if you saw them start to go down you kind of started to freak out."

By midday, the races were over. Chi Omega's "Cardinals" won the women's race and Sigma Phi Epsilon's "A" won the men's. But those milling on Frederick with their flags, truck-bed hot tubs and decorated jugs full of sweet tea, lemonade and other unknown drinks showed what Bike Race was all about.

"Just hanging out with my friends was the best part," junior Laurel Wolfe said. "I don't think I watched a single full lap."



Junior Pete Stremming pushes himself to complete his laps before gliding into the Phi Gamma Delta pit. | Kate Sarber

270 was the approximate number of laps biked — or about





After rounding the turn, junior Anneliese Trapp of Zeta Tau Alpha passes sophomore Lisa Gargan of Alpha Omicron Pi on the back stretch. | MaKayla Seifert



...miles or 108,800 meters — by 60 racers from
 ...teams representing eight Greek organizations.
 ...the number of supporters? Countless.



Celebrating their win, freshmen Phillip Rumler and Christian Germonprez share a big ol' Sigma Phi Epsilon hug. | Kate Sarber

Junior Brian Grant of Sigma Alpha Epsilon rounds the turn first as junior Taylor Allen of Sigma Phi Epsilon sticks to Grant like a shadow. | Kate Sarber

Seniors Natasha James and Kelsey Edens; juniors Abby Smith, Sarah McLearn and Rachel Davidson; sophomores Georgie Davidson and Anni Emmert; and 2014 alumna Molly Roesch cheer for the winning Chi Omega "Cardinals." | MaKayla Seifert



Ending the show with an "everyone smile" and a click, sophomores Gilang Chiara, Francis Prexl and Oscar Gomez take a selfie with the crowd after their final performance at the International Bazaar. The trio kicked off the event in Eykano Hall by performing American tunes and ended the show with songs from their home countries. | Taylor Williams



IT'S Organizations

With classes and what seemed like never-ending homework assignments, sometimes it was a minor miracle that we had any extra time at all. But whatever time we had, we filled it to the brim. While freshmen didn't always understand what busy really meant, many of us joined more stuff than we could handle. No matter our involvement level, organizations gave us the opportunity to get a little bit more out of our college days. They provided us with a place to meet people with similar interests and ideals, and to make friends outside of our majors and residence halls. They were places where we could grow as leaders, improve our skills or make a difference. They offered small commitments and large responsibilities that ranged from just having a good time to maintaining a budget and putting on events. Organizations gave us different types of entertainment — from those that were academically based to those that allowed us to cut loose and be crazy. They also gave us the ability to change college life in ways we couldn't have otherwise. They weren't something we had to do and they weren't just clubs. They were what we wanted to eat up our precious time.

Leaders Without Borders

by Millie Harlow

After countless delays, a number of cancelations and dozens of hours spent in airports around the world, International Orientation Leaders greeted every arriving international student with a smile, no matter the time of day or night.

From students' first moments on campus, IOLs were there with helpful advice and an upbeat attitude. Keeping those all-important smiles on their faces and coming up with conversation topics could be exhausting, but it was part of the job. First impressions were also important since the IOLs were responsible for guiding many of the international students.

"You thought that you were just passing down knowledge, but they were really appreciative of it," senior Janice Green said. "It was really nice to see the thanks that they were returning back to you."

A number of the IOLs had gone through the process themselves and understood the frustrations. With students coming from all over the world and from different cultures, IOLs had to acclimate each to life in college and in the U.S.

"You had someone who was coming from Saudi Arabia who had never seen a woman's arm or exposed skin," Green said. "And they were coming [to UE] at the hottest time of the year and people were wearing, to them, nothing. You had to ease them [through] that culture shock."

From how women were treated in American society to removing shoes

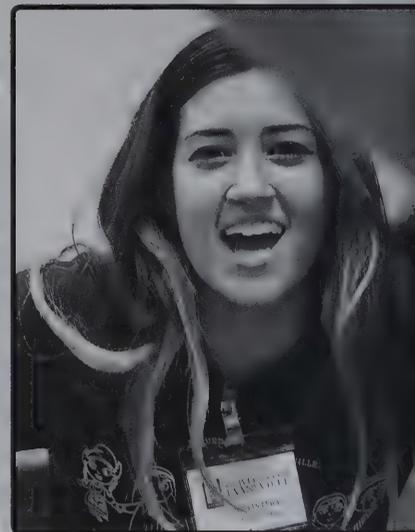
when entering a room, IOLs tackled cultural differences by being sensitive about them. When IOLs picked up students from the airport, they made sure their legs were covered and gauged how to act on how the students acted. They also could not be as demonstrative as regular Orientation Leaders since they might scare the new students. IOLs had to be calmer, but not boring.

IOLs did things like help students get settled in their residence halls, register for courses and get to know campus, but also worked to keep the ordeal entertaining. They even had their own Olympics where families — their version of small groups — competed in events like dodgeball and egg races.

"The best feeling was when people came up after and said how they would like to be an IOL," senior Charlotte Muscroft said. "It meant that they enjoyed themselves. They found it helpful and useful and they would like to do that for others."

IOLs facilitated the meeting of cultures, but more so they made international students' first experiences in the U.S. as engaging and as entertaining as possible. From these things came friendships that would span the world.

"I thought it was fun to find out how different we were," senior Hlawn Tlem said, "but in the end, we were all here and sharing culture and making friends. Not just for the semester but for the whole year."



Before they start the games, senior Sara DeMaras rallies her family of new international students and pumps them up. | Samantha Cook

and then...

Culture shock was not the only jarring part of International Welcome Week. One innocent pinata took the hardest hit at the international Olympics when freshman Daniel Marquez broke it open with enough force to shatter the candy inside. Festivities like these helped the IOLs and their new students build their own "families," even so far away from home.



Surrounded by a crowd of students, senior Brianna Gaddis shares a moment with exchange student Dihego De Lima. | Kate Sarber

Shake it. Sophomore Scile Badinga-Mounzeo and exchange students Phil Tombs and EunYoung Park encourage their teammates. | Samantha Cook

Trying to find universally understood words and phrases, senior Marketa Trousilova explains how to play the egg race game to freshman Jonatan Oliveira. | Samantha Cook



by Joy Grace Chen

Let the Stars Shine Brightly

and then...

apparently selfies were universal in every culture. Next to a sign that announced “Take a Picture With Me,” attendees could snap a photo with intensive English student Yaqadan AlHattali, who was in Omani dress. And after the night’s last performance, a normal group photo with sophomores Gilang Chiara, Oscar Gomez and Fran Prexl turned into a massive crowd selfie when everyone at the bazaar, from attendees to performers, ran to the stage to squeeze into the picture.

Even with its somewhat questionable location on a normal day, Cafe Court was a busy place. But for the 28th annual International Bazaar, lines snaked out of the serving area as students, faculty, administrators and families crowded into Ridgway Center.

As one of the largest campus organizations, with about 250 members, International Club was open to all students and offered biweekly activities like ice-skating and pumpkin carving. The bazaar was their most popular event and took the most planning.

The club chose its stars theme before fall semester started and began recruiting performers as early as Welcome Week. Members decorated Ridgway with lights and placed origami stars on the stairway and banisters. Their hard work summed up the purpose of the bazaar — to let students and their cultures shine.

“Everything they missed about home — this was their chance to bring it to UE,” senior Janice Green said.

The bazaar took over all of Ridgway this year. Attendees filled their re-usable bowls with tasty international entrees before lining up to grab equally delicious desserts in the Ridgway Center gallery.

People crowded around the 15 booths in Eykamp Hall that represented nations ranging from Brazil to Syria to England. Club members might attend a spring formal or visit cities like Nashville and Chicago to learn about American culture, but at the bazaar they had the opportunity to wear traditional dress and show off their cultures and customs to each other and the Americans.

From Brazil’s bright yellow and green decorations to Latin America’s display of eight different flags, color was definitely present. In between getting henna tattoos or learning to write in a different language, attendees turned their attention to the stage. Throughout the night, groups of students showcased their countries through music and dance performances and even a yo-yo routine.

The empty bowls piling up on tables as the evening went on also showed how much students loved trying new foods.

“The peanut butter chicken curry — that was really, really good,” sophomore Megan Owens said. “I didn’t expect it to be as good as it was.”

Whether watching a K-pop dance routine or sampling green tea ice cream, students got the chance to mingle while sharing and celebrating their differences — the goal of International Club. Through American events like bowling and cultural activities like salsa lessons, the club encouraged members to share their experiences with one another. The bazaar and its starry theme was the perfect way to unite students from different backgrounds and cultures.

“When we chose stars we thought that was really a theme that encompassed everyone,” Green said.



Sophomores Bhuree Dardarananda and Rene Perez and freshmen Rebecca Nelson and Caroline Roberts match flags to their countries origins. | MaKayla Seifert



Food marks some of the biggest differences between countries. Sophomore Dali Mizidy offers banana fritters to hungry students. | MaKayla Seifert

Opting for something a little less permanent, exchange student Areej Naseem expertly draws intricate henna flowers on freshman Megan Morris' wrist. | MaKayla Seifert



international club

by Brittany McFadden

Losing Yourself in the Music

phi mu alpha sinfonia



Staying seasonal with a holiday song, junior Anessa Brosman and senior Kayla Eastman sing Wham!'s "Last Christmas." | Sydney Blessinger

Happy to perform, graduate student Jenn Zuckerman plays Christina Perri's "Arms" as though she's done it many times before. | Bethany Boeglin

Music. It was mind-boggling to think about how important it was to our everyday lives. It was a way to relax, to get pumped up, to let out emotions — and it was used to bring people together during good times and bad. Rarely were we without it. Our iPods accompanied us everywhere and it made our smartphones all that more important. For Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia, music was everything. Being in the fraternity was more than a line on members' resumes, and hosting "UE Idol" was a way to advance music on campus.

"It just kind of brought people together," senior Jason Salo said. "It was fun because we got to express ourselves through music."

Sinfonia stood for music, and members sought to advance it whenever they could. The men found different ways to uplift people's spirits through all types of music. Their individual personalities came through during performances — whether they were planned or not. If they went out to dinner together, they might sing to their server. To support Mills Music Mission, their national philanthropy, the men would arrive at a hospital or nursing home dressed nicely, always passing out flowers to the patients as they serenaded them.

The group also wanted to show students how music impacted their lives. Some, like seniors David Wantland and Matthew Banks and juniors Lucas Pate and Max Engleman, performed as the Brassholes. The band added some rock 'n' roll to "UE Idol" and to serve as a creative outlet where members could let loose and play.

"It let us do what we loved outside of the constraints of standards of professional musical performances," Banks told Crescent Magazine. "We were allowed to be rough and improvise. Bands and choirs were great, but they were not as loose as I typically liked to get."

The Brassholes provided backup during their annual philanthropy, where performers this year tapped into their inner Brit by performing songs by British songwriters. Seven students vied to win the chance to sing the national anthem at a men's basketball game.

The competition imitated "American Idol," so it wasn't always easy to please the three judges, but that made the night more fun. Clad in a leather jacket and bright red headband, senior Michaela Tussey caught the judges' eyes with her rendition of Bonnie Tyler's "I Need A Hero." Junior Anessa Brosman represented Phi Mu by energetically singing the Animals' "House Of the Rising Sun." But neither could beat out senior Josie Brown who performed Sam Smith's "Stay With Me" while accompanied by senior Grant Hales.

"It was a surprise because there were a lot of good contestants this year," Brown said. "It was a good feeling. It inferred that I did a good job and that everyone liked it."

By the end of the night, Sinfonia had raised \$250 for the Evansville Vanderburgh School Corp.'s music program.

"That was what it was all about," Pate said, "advancing music to the best of our ability."



and then...

the “Invasion of the British” theme allowed a variety of hits from the Beatles to One Direction. But competitors weren’t the only ones performing. The Brassholes — seniors David Wantland on guitar and Matthew Banks on piano, clarinet and saxophone, and juniors Max Engleman on bass and Lucas Pate on drums — had to learn each of the eight performers’ songs to help the show be a success.



Singing Sam Smith’s “Stay with Me,” senior Josie Brown is part of the powerhouse duo with senior Grant Hales that takes first place. | Bethany Boeglin

Every rocker needs a leather jacket and a bandanna. Senior Michaela Tussey nails her rendition of Bonnie Tyler’s “I Need a Hero.” | Bethany Boeglin

Appearing as the Brassholes, seniors David Wantland and Matthew Banks, along with event judge Logan Dyer, play a little rock ‘n’ roll at the beginning and end of the night to keep things moving along. | Sydney Blessinger



by Katelyn Harbert

A Time of Kings and Queens



That's a wrap. Enthusiasm and excitement conclude the show with a rendition of Jessie J's "Mamma Knows Best" by sophomore Madeline Mettler and all of the night's other performers. | William Mallmann

and then...

There was nothing better than a performance by a professional drag queen. These men performing as women wore beautiful sequin gowns, elaborate makeup and form-fitting undergarments even a Victoria Secret model would be envious of. With their glamorous, flirty drag names, many of the professionals, some who returned year after year to support PRIDE, performed in local nightclubs. Some had even earned titles. Jasmine Roberts was Miss Gay Evansville 2004 and this year's crowd favorite, Jaden Licious, was Mister Indiana USofA MI 2014. Others, like Devonna Monet and Raven Thorne, had been participating in the show for years. Returning professionals knew what it was like to have such a large show on a small campus.

Over-the-top performances, makeup-applied beards and high heels of varying heights were just part of what made up PRIDE's annual "Drag Show." It was a night filled with humor, song, dance and exaggerated femininity and masculinity. And while everyone always had a good time, there was more to PRIDE than just the charity event.

A safe haven for LGBTQ students, PRIDE was actually open to everyone and allowed students with different backgrounds and experiences to come together to talk about things within their different communities.

"To me, PRIDE was a great way for LGBTQ people to meet others like them and hopefully find a place where they fit in," freshman Kendi Klein said. "Most of the time LGBTQ people were discriminated against and alienated, and it was nice to be a part of a group where you knew people would not judge you because of your sexual orientation."

PRIDE's premiere event highlighted both professional and student performers and showed the group's dedication to acceptance and helping others. In its 12th year, the show had raised funds for such charities as Matthew 25 AIDS Services and the AIDS Resource Group. This year was no different, with \$800 benefitting those agencies.

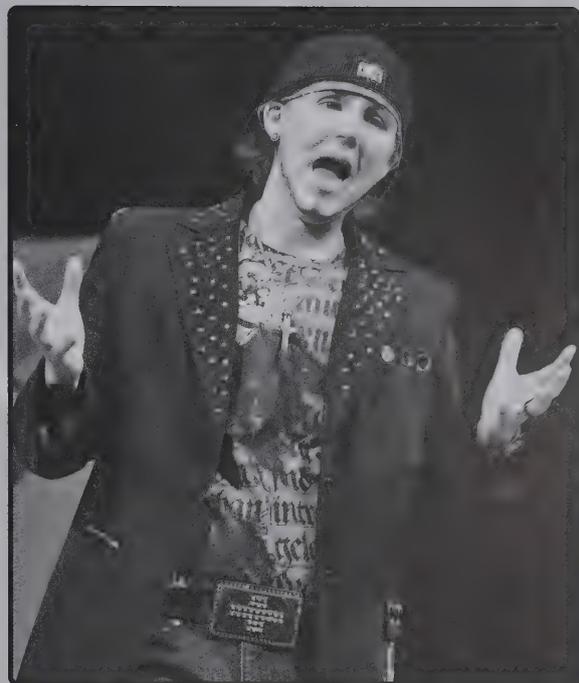
With Eykamp Hall decked out in medieval artwork to support the "Dungeons and Drag Queens" theme, the show opened with the professional drag queens taking the stage. Each was quick to interact with the audience, who hollered and applauded and were encouraged to place tips in a bowl on the stage. The student performers followed suit as they serenaded the audience while trying to raise more money.

Although the show highlighted the performers, the night wasn't just about the show. An area was set up and dedicated to educational information, and junior Justine Moore said it was important for everyone to know about things like consent and safe sex.

While the show was a way to bring everyone together, it was PRIDE's message that was an important one to remember.

"We made a point to respect everyone," Moore said. "Our three rules were: Be nice, be nice and be nice. It was important that people saw [the group] as a safe space."

pride



oving the crowd with Moulin Rouge's "Elephant Love Medley," freshman Oli Ross-Musik gazes sweetly at sophomore Justine Moore as she recites part of the love ballad. | Willian Mallmann

"I don't know what's happening here," freshman Mary Claire Smalley says during a sudden program change. But she quickly gets it together for the next act. | Willian Mallmann

As the annual show gets underway, sophomore Cheyenne Wells and junior Lily Mast perform a few numbers from some popular musicals. | Willian Mallmann

"Please understand, I am not who I was." Sporting a spiked blazer, professional drag performer Oliver Muff sings Three Doors Down's "Back to Me." | Willian Mallmann

and then...

"Halloween Bash" wasn't just about costumes, dancing and an assortment of candy, as RSA brought a live murder mystery to this year's party. Between jamming to Michael Jackson's "Thriller" and other songs, attendees tried to determine the mystery's killer. But not everyone participated willingly — suspect Ivy Fields (sophomore Demi Davis) decided junior Ben Potts was going to be her son, whether he liked it or not.



"Stacy's mom has got it going on!" As Fountains of Wayne's "Stacy's Mom" plays, seniors Aaron McGee and Abby Shirer and junior Jalen Stepp sing along. | Kate Sarber

Getting into some risky business, junior Brittany Soderberg crops it to the floor while sophomore Dane Turner gets funky behind her. | Taylor Williams

As the gruesome gang of Batman's villains, seniors Kailey Blazier, Kylie Bowen, Shannon Osiecki, Carey Georgelis and Karley Garrison look dastardly. | Taylor Williams



by Millie Harlow

Almost every student who attended UE had lived in either a residence hall or Village housing at some point. And students slept, studied and stressed more in their resident housing than in any classroom, so it was the goal of RSA to make them feel at ease.

"RSA existed in order to make living in a residence hall not like living in a residence hall," senior Hope Mills said. "I use 'residence hall' because 'dorm' had a negative connotation, that it was just four walls, kind of like a jail cell. RSA existed to make your life in a residence hall a little bit better, to make it not like just living within four walls."

RSA influenced many aspects of students' lives, but what was most remembered was its two annual dances — "Halloween Bash" and "Winter Whispers." Oftentimes, the events attracted the same students, but RSA kept it new by trying out different themes and ideas, like this year's "Arabian Nights" for the winter dance.

While the dance could have centered around a bunch of romantic, sappy songs, attendees tailored the music to their interests. They requested junior Anthony McDonald, serving as the night's DJ, to play everything from Mystery Skulls' "Ghost" to Dexys Midnight Runners' "Come on Eileen." Residents made it their way to let loose.

"There were students who didn't feel comfortable going to parties," senior Belen Robles said. "[RSA provided] a place for students to feel comfortable. They got to have their own experience on their own terms."

"Bash" was the yearly chance for students to dress up as everything from Poison Ivy to a garden gnome. While some, like senior Aaron McGee and junior Jalen Stepp who serenaded each other to R. Kelly's "Bump N' Grind," just focused on the music, others went all out on their costumes, like senior Kylie Bowen, whose Catwoman outfit won best overall costume.

But RSA didn't just put on dances. They sponsored "Rave Back the Night" to raise awareness about sexual misconduct, provided event funding for hall councils and participated in events like Musical Madness, Honors Activity Board's "Nerd Wars" and Make-a-Difference Day. As a support and a resource, if a hall needed something new or wanted to make some cosmetic repairs, RSA helped as they could.

"There was way more to it than just sitting in the office and just planning a dance," Robles said. "We helped students to have a well-developed residence experience. Without us, there would have been no funding for events and changes."

By supporting groups like the Food Advisory Board and providing funds for events and dances, RSA gave residents a way to influence their living conditions and made them feel at home.

"It gave students a way to be involved on campus through events, putting on events and being on boards," Mills said. "It provided a way for students to make their opinions matter, a way to make sure their life in college wasn't boring and lame."

Making it Your Home



Witches have fun too. Sophomore Titianna Folson rocks out in her classic costume. | Sydney Blessinger



Gently twirling during a slow dance, junior Dalton Bozse surprises his girlfriend, freshman Sari Baum, by sweeping her into a quick dip. | Kate Sarber

resident student association



Sophomore Brianna Nichols gets a little dramatic in round two with Michael Buble's "Everything." | Willian Mallmann



The mannerisms are pure Taylor Swift as freshman Ryan DeHoff sings her hit "Blank Space." | Willian Mallmann

and then...

Zeta Tau Alpha ingeniously mashed-up four different tunes. Juniors Jessika Collins and Andrea Heredia; sophomores Alyssa Murphy and Brianna Nichols; and freshman Kaitlynn Gilmore dressed differently for each song, from a sparkly diva costume for Christina Aguilera's "Ain't No Other Man" to dressing in drag for The Lonely Island's "I Just Had Sex" to teary-eyed makeup for Taylor Swift's "I Knew You Were Trouble."



by Mackenzie Bruce

Breaking Hearts & Taking Names

A combined passion for music, sisterhood and service characterized the 30 women who made up Sigma Alpha Iota. And with its commitment to music and service, even non-music majors could get involved — they only needed one academic credit hour in music.

Junior Alexandra Billhartz was one member who heard about SAI her freshman year, joined and then climbed the ladder within the organization.

"I just got really into it," she said. "I didn't join a social Greek organization but I liked the idea of a group of sisters sharing a bond and sharing a bond of music."

The many service events SAI coordinated kept members striving toward those ideals. The women sometimes volunteered their time at the Vanderburgh Humane Society or got a group together for Make-A-Difference Day, but they usually spent their time helping the local SAI alumna chapter.

One way was through Isaacs's Day of

Music, a fundraiser held in memory of a local boy who loved music but died of cancer in 2012. SAI shared its music knowledge with visitors by hosting an instrumental petting zoo and teaching children to play their own music.

"There were clarinets and saxophones and the flute and little percussion instruments, so they got really into it," Billhartz said. "Our booth was pretty busy throughout the day."

SAI's commitment to service didn't just happen off campus. For the second year, the group hosted "Air Band Competition" to promote a love of music among students — even those with less than adequate music skills. Competitors lip-synced and air-played whatever pretend musical instruments they could imagine.

"People used brooms for guitars and buckets for drums and just got creative with it," Billhartz said.

Judges concentrated on each group's creativity, costumes, props and how re-

alistic their performance was. And this year's theme, "Lovemakers and Heartbreakers," allowed those musical wannabes to put their own twist on the romantic song of their choice.

"Everyone wanted to be in a band and I think that was a passion a lot of people that loved music shared," sophomore Kelsey Fields said. "That was one of the reasons 'Air Band' was [good]. It was easy to participate in."

Four teams got into the theme with tunes ranging from classic love ballads to break-up pop songs. But Phi Kappa Tau took first place with its renditions of Queen's "Crazy Little Thing Called Love" and Pat Benatar's "Heartbreaker."

The \$414 raised benefited SAI Philanthropies Inc., which aided various music-related organizations. And with a night of rocking out, SAI was able to share its love of music with anyone who would gladly play a tennis racket or lip-sync into an oversized hair brush.

Bringing some love to the stage, sophomores Drew Hollman and Sam Dowd sing Bruno Mars' "Marry You." | Willian Mallmann

The Bad Boys from Boston have to watch out because juniors Damian Peak and Chris Erwin are coming with thrill and excitement to sing Aerosmith's "Cryin'." | Willian Mallmann



sigma alpha iota

honors activity board

Only a bad lollipop or a difficult question can cause this level of discomfort. Sophomore Olivia Butterman lets junior Abbi Hanson and her Chi Omega teammates figure it out. | Kate Sarber



The "Windows Vista" team is stumped...or are they? Freshmen Jennifer Riedford and Samantha Petitjean work on a math question, one writing out the equation as the other does the math in her head. | Kate Sarber

by Brittany McFadden

Waging War Over Trivia

More than 25 nerdy teams assembled for the Honors Activity Board's annual "Nerd Wars" trivia contest, and students and faculty answered questions during a heated competition to single out the nerdiest on campus.

Participants proved their knowledge on a wide range of subjects, from difficult math and science problems to obscure literature references to fandom peculiarities. After teams consisting solely of professors kept winning year after year, HAB decided to separate the student and the faculty competition, making things a little more fair.

"We felt like the professors had a slight advantage because they been on this planet longer, so we gave the students a chance," sophomore Matt Bryan said.

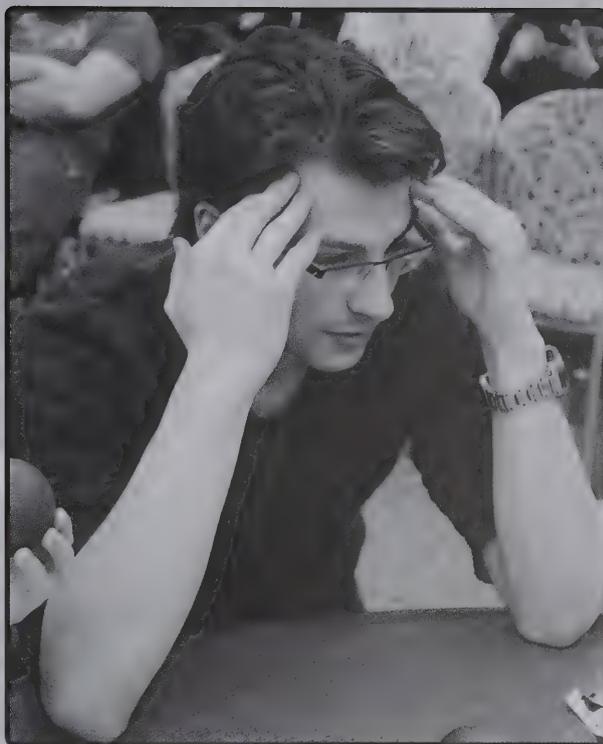
Professors were encouraged to get involved, whether during "Nerd Wars" or other activities. They often went on outings with the honors students, such as when they visited Sky Zone and toured the Vanderbilt campus. HAB also organized movie viewings followed by discussions so most events were educational in some way. After all, that's what the program was all about — absorbing knowledge. But, like "Nerd Wars," events often had a fun twist.

With six rounds and 10 questions per round, there was plenty of opportunity for friendly competition. Questions ranged from the obvious to the arbitrary, and kept teams befuddled and thinking.

While Team Consilience took the faculty win, Phi Kappa Tau and Les Quizerables tied for first and prepared for the tiebreaker question. The poor Phi Tau team didn't stand a chance. When junior Harrison Mann and his Les Quizerables teammates heard the question — "According to Google Maps, how far is it in miles from UE to Anchorage, Ala.?" — they knew they had won the war since Mann had just driven from his hometown in Alaska to Evansville at the start of the school year.

"It was one in a million," junior Grace Bush said.

In the end, everyone enjoyed a night of nerdiness and testing their trivial knowledge. The \$776 raised went to support the local tutoring program sponsored by HAB.



Although he will later help his team win "Nerd Wars," junior Harrison Mann struggles to figure out an early question. | Kate Sarber.



Quickly writing down the answer, junior Ryan Lasley listens as freshman Abdulhasib Aljandali whispers his explanation. | Kate Sarber

and then...

the nerds proved that in addition to brains, they had style when a costume contest took place between the third and fourth rounds. Some participants had dressed as Pokemon's Pikachu, Batman's the Joker or nerdy engineers. Others kept it classy with suspenders, ties and glasses. Team members voted by cheering the loudest for their favorites, and junior Joshua Best came out on top as the nerdiest with his "Animal Crossing" Villager 1 outfit. Along with nerd pride, Best earned a \$25 Wal-Mart gift card.

and then...

the children in the program were full of surprises. Mentors always visited the Joshua Academy at the beginning of the academic year to meet their mentees for the first time. They also participated in an activity that pitted the mentors against the children — an intense basketball game. Third grader Deonta, one of the smallest, was dribbling down court when he was blocked by a student who stood heads above him. Unstoppable, he took a leap and shot a three-pointer from where he stood, shocking just about everyone.



The eyes tell it all. Junior Khadija Evans keeps her composure as freshman Courtney Firman and elementary school students Asheiana, Akeelah, Breisha and Za'marques give out a blood-curdling yell. Senior Carly Herrud merely covers her ears as junior Katherine Eckert watches. | Sadie Wacker

by Joy Grace Chen

Broadening Perspectives

Children were a rare sight on a college campus. But every Wednesday, a bus of noisy first- through fifth-graders arrived at the Front Oval for a late afternoon of fun-filled learning.

College Mentors for Kids paired student volunteers with children from Joshua Academy. Since the children were at impressionable ages, mentors tried to model positive behavior and higher education, encouraging their "little buddies" to defy limitations and pursue their dreams.

"That was my favorite part," senior Kayla Eastman said. "Year to year watching them grow up, and succeeding and figuring out what they wanted to do with their lives."

CMFK focused on broadening perspectives with activities emphasizing higher education, community service, culture and diversity. The children might listen to a guest speaker or take turns reading off a PowerPoint slide. Mentors encouraged them to answer questions in their personal journals.

"We always tried to have a hands-on component to it, more active learning," junior Taylor Wornica said. "We didn't want it to be like school."

The learning didn't always stay in Hyde Hall. Mentors and the children also visited the nursing program's simulation lab and talked to the dance team. In one activity that combined fundraising, food and a marketing lesson, the children created their own businesses and then sold items donated by Donut Bank and Penny Lane to students around campus.

Mentors enjoyed building relationships with their buddies throughout the year. Eastman first joined the program as a freshman and was paired with a girl who was not afraid to choreograph and perform dances in front of others.

"She was very comfortable in her own skin, and that was something I needed to learn as a freshman," she said. "You can really learn a lot from kids."

Students watched their mentees get excited every week about what they were learning. Even with busy college schedules, CMFK volunteers looked forward to another Wednesday spent with the children.

"They were just the highlight of my day," exchange student Maeve O'Neill said, "100 percent the highlight of my day."



After taking in a huge breath, third-graders Benton and Zachary and exchange student Maeve O'Neill scream out all of their energy before going inside to do homework. | Taylor Williams

Sometimes history needs some extra talking. Freshman Omar El-Hodary assists fifth-grader Joseph in figuring out why history is important to learn. | Taylor Williams



Reaching out a hand, freshman Kaylee LeDuc helps first-grader Saniyah write down her favorite flavor of ice cream. | Taylor Williams

college mentors for kids



If you decide to participate in Lambda Chi Alpha's "Watermelon Bust" then you are guaranteed to be a sticky mess when it's over. Sigma Phi Epsilon hopes freshman Connor Micklo and seniors Sean Banks and Sage Tuell can pull the other team into the kiddie pool filled with watermelon chunks and who knows what else so they aren't the stickier ones when the tug-of-war is over. | MaKayla Seifert



IT'S Greek

When it came to Greeks, either you were one or you knew someone who was. There was no escape, and who would want to? Sure, each group came with its own quirks — being small, partying too hard or being just plain weird — but those quirks meant nothing in comparison to the lifestyle as a whole. No other organizations raised as much money or offered as many events. Greeks offered a place where we could connect, not because we shared a major or a club, but because we shared ideas on what it meant to be a respectable man or woman. Through Greek life we could connect with others across the nation because we shared the same alphabet. Being Greek was about hanging out, about being goofy in front of others, about being a part of a family bigger than any we could have built on our own. Maybe there were rivalries and not everyone got along with everyone else, but being a brother or a sister united people despite those things. Those who never rushed could never quite understand it, could never really appreciate the traditions or the times together, but everyone felt the benefits. College just wouldn't have been the same without its Greeks.

Few things kept Greek chapters from dressing up to fit the occasion, and Bid Day warranted all sorts of decorative garb. Decked out in Mickey Mouse ears, sailor hats, flower crowns and shirts boasting cartoon candies, the women representing UE's four national sororities covered Ridgway Center lawn, jumping and cheering in anticipation of new sisters.

Bid Day always took place on a scorching day in September, and this particular Sunday afternoon was no exception. But the high temperatures and humidity did not stop the merriment. Junior Abbi Hanson, a Chi Omega, was thrilled to greet women who accepted their sorority's bid.

"Bid day was exciting because these [women] got to find a new group of women which they could call home," she said.



ALL MY SISTERS WITH ME

In their recruitment groups, pledges burst out of Ridgway to their new sisters, and the uncontained excitement only grew when the recruitment counselors joined the crowd. The 16 counselors went unaffiliated long before Bid Day as they tried not to sway any potential decisions. But as Taylor Swift's "Shake It Off" played, they unzipped their jackets to reveal their letters and joined their sisters, old and new.

To find this new family, pledges went through a week of meeting and greeting. They visited with each sorority, eliminating one sorority each of the four nights as they discovered which they felt was the best fit.

Once Bid Day finally arrived, freshman Maggie Kitt opened her bid hoping for Phi Mu — and got it.

"[There were] no words to describe the feeling of knowing you were going to a home," she said.

Exhilaration filled the groups, and the only way to show it was through hugs, tears and high-pitched squeals. Once exuberant greetings wended down, each sorority had different activities planned to entertain the afternoon — and evening — away.

Although recruitment week was short and hectic, the process created a memory that would carry on for the years to come. Junior Maggie Limmer might have summed it up best.

"Crazy whirlwind of a day to wrap up a crazy whirlwind week," she said.

by Brittany McFadden



Chanting is part of the day's celebration for junior Paige Baumgardt and sophomore Cassie Peterson as they let others know their Zeta Tau Alpha allegiance. | MaKayla Seifert



Showing their alpha love, seniors Allison Gray, Jen Lee and Alexis Braun commemorate Bid Day surrounded by their old and new sisters. | MaKayla Seifert

As she welcomes a Phi Mu sister, sophomore Ambrea Spivey proudly carries the sorority's flag and lets freshman Erin Parra know that smiles are what the day calls for. | Taylor Williams

The Chi Omega family has expanded again, and seniors Kristen Levy and Becky Calahan; junior Karly Lieske; sophomores Rian-na Hansen and Anne-Marie Schulz; and freshman McKala Troxler unite in celebration. | Taylor Williams



As the leader of the pack, sophomore Mary Whelan pumps up Alpha Omicron Pi and gets the women ready to welcome their new sisters. | MaKayla Seifert

“
Crazy whirlwind of a day to wrap up
a crazy whirlwind week.



bid day



Passover

Returning to campus to welcome the newest brothers to Phi Kappa Tau, 2013 graduate Jamison Heard creates uproar as he leads a chant. | Kate Sarber

Chanting "Bring them out," senior Evan Meiman and junior Cameron Wickes use all of their Lambda Chi Alpha lung capacity. | Taylor Williams

Erupting with energy, sophomores Austin Tenbarge and Aaron Powell cheer as Phi Gamma Delta welcomes its new members. | Taylor Williams

Trust builds immediately for freshman Jake Wolfington as he vocalizes his satisfaction in being selected by Sigma Alpha Epsilon. He gets his welcome by being passed over his new brothers. | Taylor Williams



It was a community event where everyone was coming together to celebrate Greek life as a whole.



Taking a confident dive at his final Passover, senior Travis Gilley springs into the arms of his Tau Kappa Epsilon brothers, knowing full well that they will not drop him. | Taylor Williams





Painted from head to toe in colors representing their fraternities, some wearing unicorn masks and even a banana suit, the five fraternities that gathered for Passover accepted new members with a cacophony that echoed loudly throughout the Front Oval.

Passover was about getting pledges, and each group wanted the most and the best, as Sigma Alpha Epsilon's yelling "Still on top" showed when they started getting numerous pledges. But under the seemingly competitive chanting of the other groups, like Phi Gamma Delta's "Go Bananas" and Phi Kappa Tau's "Little Red Wagon," there seemed to exist a camaraderie of sorts.

"It was a community event where everyone was coming together to celebrate Greek life as a whole," senior Andrew Meyer said. "Someone would come out,

ONE SMALL LEAP FOR MAN

by Millie Harlow

and people would cheer even if they were going to somewhere else because you were supporting them and their decision."

Those choices took a week to solidify. Rushees spent that week hanging out at the different fraternities, playing games and building relationships with actives. By the end, many knew exactly where they fit. When the men received their bids — filled with notes ranging from heartfelt to "What's taking you so long?" — any pressure associated with the decision-making turned into relief. The notes reassured them their new brothers cared and made them excited to join.

But it was the moment the runners grabbed and took the pledges out onto the School of Business Administration patio that started the festivities.

"It was like when a football team rushes out [onto the field,]" freshman Daniel O'Brien said. "It was just like an explosion and stuff, like in a football stadium, but just with you — not the entire team — they were cheering."

Enthusiasm greeted every pledge, and the experience felt personal. Those who signed for Sigma Phi Epsilon had Passover at the house, while O'Brien threw confetti before he jumped into the arms of the Lambda Chi Alphas. But it was more than cheering and crowd surfing. Diving into their brothers' arms was the pledges' first act as members and a symbol of what the brothers would do — have their backs and not drop them.





Chasing slippery watermelon around a table is hard work. As sophomore Alyssa Murphy continues her attack, junior Charlotte Lechner finds it funny that she has watermelon juice all over her face and up her nose. | MaKayla Seifert

These men refuse to go down without a fight. Freshman Chandler Riem and junior Yaman Shiekh Deia barely escape the pool of watermelon sitting at their feet. | MaKayla Seifert

"watermelon bust"



Trying to avoid a fall into the watermelon gunk, junior Skyler Shinn and freshman Dane Davison pull the rope as hard as they can as senior Ashton Bishop yells at junior Troy Burger to pull harder. | Kate Sarber



It was just everyone hanging out breaking watermelons.



by Joy Grace Chen

SMASHING SUCCESS



Inches separate freshman Annie Stenftenagel from the kiddie pool as freshman McKala Troxler and sophomores Rianna Hansen, Cindy White and Melissa Blythe try to hang on. | Kate Sarber

The 10 watermelons hanging from the deck of the Lambda Chi Alpha house gave no indication of what was about to take place during the fraternity's annual philanthropy. "Watermelon Bust" supported Evansville ARC, combining a good cause with watermelon-themed games. The 16 teams came from different fraternities and sororities and two unaffiliated groups.

"Everybody from pretty much every Greek group came out and supported our philanthropy," sophomore Wade Mobley said. "It definitely showed that all the hard work we put into it paid off."

While a typical day might find Lambda Chis using their backyard basketball and volleyball courts for pick-up games, during "Bust" these areas turned into a battleground where teams eagerly attacked watermelons.

The brothers started the evening by shoving a flaming watermelon off the roof. With a blaze of heat, it shattered on the ground and set the night's tone — fun-filled chaos.

Fruit casualties only climbed through the challenges. Everyone in the watermelon eating competition plunged their faces into the slices, but junior Charlotte Lechner from Alpha Omicron Pi Rubies took the win.

"If you just shook your head fast enough, it was like water and you could just drink it," she said.

Bright juice sprayed everywhere when the hanging watermelons finally met their fates as melon pinatas. After each round, everyone clapped and hooted for senior Paul Fiorini as he swept smashed pieces beneath the deck.

Although the brothers goofed around a lot, they also took the fraternity's creed seriously. New brothers were called associate members instead of pledges, and the Lambda Chi motto of "Vir Quisque Vir" — or "Every Man a Man" — ensured that every brother was treated equally. This trait and the fraternity's laidback personality attracted 13 new members who also helped support the philanthropy.

By the time teams Sigma Phi Epsilon 1 and AOPi Rubies were announced the winners, sticky pink juice and shaving cream coated the ground and most participants. A night of cleanup awaited the group, yet the Lambda Chis had found the perfect balance between playing games and raising money. The first came naturally with many fun-loving brothers living in the house, but the loud environment made the choice between schoolwork and socializing hard at times.

"There was never a dull moment," senior Evan Meiman said. "If you really needed to study, you had to separate yourself from the hallways. If you wanted to be distracted, there was always something going on."

Lambda Chi took their responsibilities to heart, and their dedication to "Bust" got results. Not only did the philanthropy bust 200 watermelons and raise about \$1,100 for Evansville ARC, but participants' amusement also proved that Lambda Chi's work paid off and created a sticky success.

"It was just everyone hanging out breaking watermelons," junior Ethan O'Rourke said. "What could be more fun than that?"

by Millie Harlow

STRESS, **KISSES** AND SWAG

Between pageants and dance competitions that were the staple of UE charity events, Delta Omega Zeta offered something different — a game show. Unique like the local sorority itself, “The Price is Right” was an evening of fun and relief for the DOZs.

This philanthropy gave everyone a chance to win while helping The Center for Missing and Exploited Children. Before becoming a sorority in 2005, the women originated as the Muses and focused on philanthropy, and so emphasizing the spirit of charity came easy.

But with no philanthropy chair and only eight sisters to do all the work, putting on the fundraiser proved overly stressful. They did everything — acquired donations, kept track of prizes’ prices and tried to be organized. Knowing the event would help an important charity gave the women focus — and so did peers’ excitement before the occasion even began.

“It just got me more pumped when I saw someone and they said they were coming and couldn’t wait to be there,” junior Tia Balmer said. “It was small things like that that helped when you were stressed.”

Even with the world seemingly against them, DOZ pulled off an evening of cheesy game show shenanigans — with help from their hosts and “Barker Beauties.” The three male “Beauties” stuffed their busts,

clipped flowers into their hair and presented prizes ranging from applewood-smoked bacon to UE swag.

But while the men showcased the goods, they also strutted their stuff to become the audience’s favorite — enough that mistress and master of ceremonies, juniors Tori Long and Jacob Green, brought attention to freshman Zack Belford’s sexy stride.

Comments like these produced more laughs, as the hosts played off contestants’ energy. During the second “Too High Too Low” round, Green proclaimed senior Allison Gray as winner, then realized he was wrong and gave the chocolate prize to the true victor, senior Mathew Brown.

“I’m sorry, Allison,” Green said. “I raised your hopes and then crashed them down. He’ll be the only one getting [Hershey’s] Kisses from our ‘Barker Beauties.’”

Despite mixed-up prizes and hosts forgetting to say the classic line, “Don’t forget to spay and neuter your pets,” all went well. Freshman Trenton McCorkle won the final prize — an Aces blanket — while sophomore Raul Macias won the “Barker Beauty” contest. By the end, DOZ raised \$586 — a perfect top-off to the night.

“While we were having fun, I knew that what we were doing was actually going to help people,” Long said. “So that just made it better.”

💧💧 It just got me more pumped when I saw someone and they said they were coming and couldn’t wait to be there. 💧💧

With elegance and grace, “Barker Beauty” freshman Zack Belford displays one of the lovely prizes given out to participants throughout the game.
| MaKayla Seifert





With only one spin of the wheel, senior Paul Klein decides to stay with his winning amount, making him the first of two finalists eligible for the big prize at the end of the game. | MaKayla Seifert

"the price is right"



"Your big would be proud," an audience member shouts to sophomore Raul Macias after he is named the audience's favorite "Barker Beauty" of the night. | MaKayla Seifert

One rotation wasn't nearly enough for senior Allison Gray as she reaches the end of the first round. After the wheel stops on 10 cents, Gray decides to use her second spin in hopes of getting closer to \$1 than junior Jessika Collins. | MaKayla Seifert

RAW TALENT

by Joy Grace Chen

Music blared as four members of Phi Kappa Tau launched into a performance of Blue Oyster Cult's "(Don't Fear) The Reaper." In an act made famous by the "SNL" sketch "More Cowbell," senior Neal Catellier dutifully whacked at a cowbell and nailed his portrayal, all the way down to his belly shirt and overbearing attitude. Phi Tau's rendition of the classic skit offered the perfect introduction to the fraternity's charity event.

In its second year as Phi Tau's philanthropy, "Phi-Day Night Live" attracted both eager participants and a large audience with its "Saturday Night Live" theme. While most performers had no real acting or comedic experience, it didn't stop them from giving it an honest go at their favorite sketches.

"I was a big "SNL" fan," junior Katherine Eckert said. "So once I knew the theme I was jumping up and down, ready to participate."

Proceeds from "Phi-Day Night Live" benefited SeriousFun Children's Network, which sponsored more than 30 summer camps worldwide for children with chronic medical needs. This cause had the backing of Phi Tau since the brothers loved to spend time together chilling out or at planned events like laser tag and lock-ins.

"We just liked to hang out and have fun and build brotherhood that way," sophomore Nathan Wallisch said. "The bonds that [the children] had at camp and the [friendships] that they built were really similar to the bonds and brotherhood that we had in our chapter, and we liked to encourage that."

From summer camp fun to stage antics, the brothers continued to brighten lives and invited others to do the same. The night's reenactments of popular skits be-



💧💧 They were a bunch of just genuine and very caring guys. They wanted to make a difference. 💧

Taking on the abrasive persona of motivational speaker Matt Foley, freshman Lindsey Lyons sets junior Rebekah Taylor and sophomore Alexandra Amick straight in this Zeta Tau Alpha skit. | Sydney Blessinger

“phi-day night live”

gan when sophomore Dana Bednowitz appeared on the stage as the one-upper “Penelope” in Phi Mu’s sketch, and Sigma Phi Epsilon’s version of “Celebrity Jeopardy” pitted freshman Dominic Bolt, junior Chris Costello and sophomore Josh Pins — as contestants Sean Connery, Billy Mays and Derek Zoolander — against one another.

Any aspiring writer could have connected with Zeta Tau Alpha’s delivery centered around a Matt Foley-like motivational speaker, and Tau Kappa Epsilon proved that its members could deadpan their way through talking about Schweddy balls in “The Delicious Dish.”

Some of the skits were so well-known that the actors felt the pressure to perform as well as the people who made them popular. Along with her Alpha Omicron Pi sisters, Eckert wanted to do justice to their skit, “Dream Home Extreme.” In the original, Kristen Wiig’s enthusiastic character played opposite an unimpressed Emma Stone, so Eckert wanted to nail her impersonation.

“I knew for my role I had to be really animated so I drank a cup of coffee beforehand,” she said.

It was worth it as AOPi’s skit took first place, with Phi Mu taking second and Sig Ep claiming third.

But the event wasn’t all about comic relief — it was

about compassion, which everyone agreed Phi Tau had.

“They were a bunch of just genuine and very caring guys,” junior Ashley Manka said. “They wanted to make a difference.”

Most of the brothers who lived in Phi Tau’s house also liked to create an informal and friendly environment. They kept their doors open and welcomed visitors. This resulted in some new members deciding to move in as soon as they accepted their bids.

“I wouldn’t say living in a house was for everyone,” sophomore Nathan Stroud said. “I liked it. I liked having my best friends right next to me.”

A sense of camaraderie knit them together, despite the diverse range of majors and interests. The brothers might have come from different backgrounds and had varying career paths, but they bonded over the common goal of raising money for children and pulling off “Phi-Day Night Live.” They did both, donating \$1,242 to their charity and getting participants — even themselves — to become comedy geniuses.

“We were such a mix of people and a mix of majors,” Stroud said. “And that’s what “Phi-Day Night Live” was. It was kind of random. It was a mix of raw talent.”



“Just a big sack of Schweddy balls!” Tasting the treats made by Mr. Schweddy, freshman Devin McGathey and junior Jacob Green sample “beautiful balls” to close the show. | Bethany Boeglin



Everyone put a comic twist on their “SNL” characters, including Phi Mu, who had senior Anna Witt and junior Anessa Brosman getting great reactions from the audience. | Bethany Boeglin

by Joy Grace Chen

THE LEGEND CONTINUES

Seven flappers sashayed down the red carpet with six swanky gangsters at their sides. Tossing candy into the crowd before strutting across the stage, the female contestants represented 13 organizations in Sigma Alpha Epsilon's first "Paddy Murphy" pageant.

The pageant was named after an Irish SAE member who also happened to be Al Capone's right-hand man. He chose to sacrifice his life instead of shooting a brother, an act that made him a legend in the fraternity.

"The story of Paddy Murphy was definitely one to use as a framework, a reminder of how the fraternity raised its members," junior Matt Roberts said. "It was a brother-between-brother bond."

SAE's national directors had changed the way brothers first bonded, and now required pledges to be initiated four days after recruitment, cutting short SAE's process of really getting to know pledges. Despite the change, they were confident they had chosen new members who would live up to Murphy's legacy.

Brothers also gained more with the on-campus philanthropy. Each contestant was escorted to the Eykamp Hall stage by an SAE in what could be called the pageant's evening gown competition.

Junior Meg Reinsch used three words to describe herself — sweet, sassy and single — that quickly became the mantra of the night. Shrieks and applause met each crowd favorite as fun facts about the contestant — from her hometown to hobbies to her imaginary gang name — were read.

Music dominated the talent portion of the competition and ranged from performances of Beyonce's "If I Were a Boy" to Taylor Swift's "Stay Stay Stay." Junior Mackenzie Harris pretended to bake a cake, while other competitors taught the audience how to do such things as the cha-cha and karate.

Sophomore Taylor Davidson added a twist with her take on the "Not My Legs" YouTube challenge, pairing her upper body with the legs of junior Charlotte Lechner. This feat was somewhat difficult for the women but hilarious for the spectators.

"From my (backstage) perspective, Charlotte's face



The multitasking junior Anessa Brosman performs Adele's "Someone Like You" as she represents Phi Mu. | MaKayla Seifert

was as red as her shirt," junior Mark Speckhard said. "She was struggling."

In the end, junior Anessa Brosman, whose mouth fell open in surprise in true pageant fashion, was announced the winner.

"I knew I was going to have a lot of fun but I didn't come into this expecting anything like this," she said.

But the class acts weren't limited to the contestants. Every SAE also dressed for the occasion. Those who were not escorts stood against the walls and showed how polished they were as they followed SAE's creed, "The True Gentleman," a code of conduct the men took seriously.

"They were the true gentlemen," Brosman said. "I'd never been disrespected by any of them. They were respectable men. They were just so well-mannered."

The pageant raised \$2,500 for Riley Children's Foundation and boosted the fraternity's reputation as both classy and caring.

It takes two to make a thing go right. With her twin brother, Tanner, by her side, sophomore Rue Reynolds belts out Sia's "Chandelier." Reynolds wears Zeta Tau Alpha blue in the evening gown portion of the competition. | MaKayla Seifert

What better way to show off dance team talent than with a choreographed number? Freshman Jessica Pemberton leaps and twirls across the stage to Big & Rich's "Shake It." | MaKayla Seifert



ose creative Alpha Omicron Pis. Sophomore Taylor Dason uses junior Charlotte Lechner's legs to dance to Taylor Swift's "Shake It Off" as her talent. | MaKayla Seifert



“

They were respectable men.

They were just so well-mannered.

”

WELCOME ABOARD

Seventeen strapping men dancing and performing together was a sight usually only seen at Zeta Tau Alpha's "Big Man On Campus." The annual event, this year with a nautical theme, raised money for Susan G. Komen and the fight against breast cancer while providing a night full of laughs.

Zeta supported the organization as its national philanthropy, and UE's chapter felt especially close to the cause. Many of its members had personal experiences with breast cancer, so BMOC became a way to inform students as well as raise money. One of junior Jessica Collins favorite lines of Zeta's creed — "To prepare for service and learn about nobility of service" — made her think of the event itself.

"We definitely thought that breast cancer awareness was a noble cause," she said. "[The creed] really related to the philanthropy. This was one of the chances we got to give back to the community."

As an all-male pageant, BMOC was never short of entertainment, which started with dancing. Men twirled and floated around the stage to impress the judges, and freshman Mohammad Soufan showed off some impressive moves to a medley of sea-worthy songs.

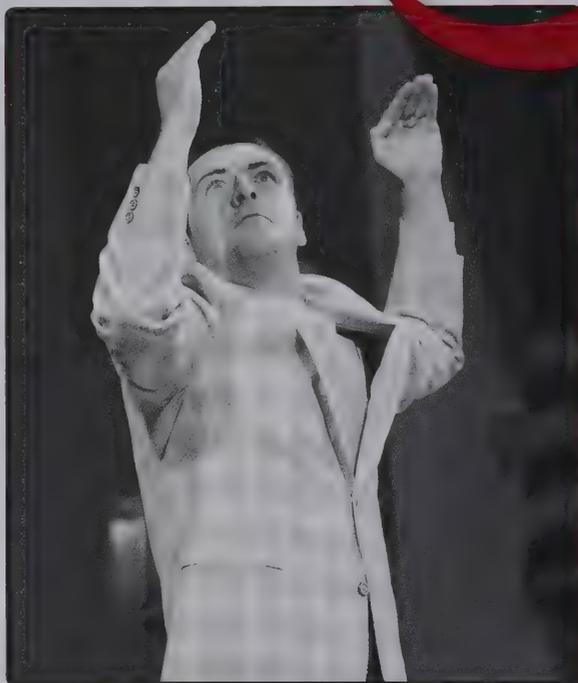
"It was a great idea to incorporate 'Titanic' with 'SpongeBob' and slow and fast dance," he said.

Soufan danced again during the talent portion to Michael Jackson's "Billie Jean" before playing another Jackson song on the violin. Though he was an audience favorite, other talents emerged in junior Alex Gould, playing Costello, and sophomore Jimmy Ward, playing Abbott, from the classic "Who's on First" sketch.

Gould said the routine took days of practice, but the pair nailed it, allowing them to move on to the final round. Along with Ward, Gould, seniors Matt Brown and Connor Donnelly and freshman Caleb Chesnut went on to the final round to answer questions. When Gould was asked what he would give a person with breast cancer, he responded without hesitation.

"Being there with love and support is better than any gift," he said.

After the final round, judges gave the BMOC title to



Unsure what to do with his hands, junior Jack Andrew's comic attempt at the princess wave gets out of control. | Kate Sarber

Gould, and Soufan was named Mr. Think Pink. And while the pageant determined a winner, both men knew it was about the \$4,034 raised for breast cancer.

"It all came down to awareness," Ward said. "You didn't know who in the audience had the cure in their head."

The women went on to host "Rent-A-Puppy" during spring finals week because they wanted to offer friends and classmates some stress-free downtime. But the fun-loving attitude found during BMOC seemed to characterize the sorority best. When the women were all together by themselves, there was undoubtedly one word that described the atmosphere.

"It was loud," junior Alex Gallo said. "It was loud, but interesting. There was never a dull moment, never."

Whether hanging out together or working toward a worthy cause, these women were full of life.

"What you saw around campus was what you got in the (sorority) suite," senior Kiki Jones said.



It all came down to awareness.
You didn't know who in the audience
had the cure in their head.



"big man on campus"

It's story time. Assisted by junior Maggie Limmer, senior James Harper Burns reads "I Want My Hat Back" by Jon Klassen, imparting lessons about the costs of thievery. | Kate Sarber

Rock on. After being named Mr. Think Pink complete with a glittering tiara, freshman Mohammad Soufan commemorates his band's tribute to Michael Jackson with the pop king's classic hand sign. | Kate Sarber

While playing a montage of underwater-themed songs to match the night's aquatic tone, senior Matthew Banks weaves his way through Eykamp Hall as he symphonically seduces the audience. | Kate Sarber

by Brittany McFadden

KILLER THRILLER

"glamour girl"

Whether it was on a late night run to Rally's or during spontaneous Nerf gun wars, the brothers of Tau Kappa Epsilon enjoyed one another's company. And their good-natured humor and friendliness certainly showed during the revised version of their annual philanthropy, "Glamour Girl."

Their previous charity event was an all-female pageant, but this year they made a spunky switch — a theme based around Halloween and the 1975 cult classic "The Rocky Horror Picture Show." Organizations were able to participate in groups of two or three, competing in five events. Men were even allowed to enter — just as long as they dressed in drag. In honor of the theme, many, including a number of TKEs, dressed in fishnet stockings and bustiers. Proceeds went to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, which the fraternity supported as its national philanthropy.

TKEs believed in three principles — charity, esteem and love. It was these beliefs that allowed the brothers to look for the good in people, though they also knew everyone was not perfect. They learned to respect these differences and to enjoy them.

"I think the heart of TKE was bringing out the better of a man when he joined," senior Travis Gilley said. "It brought out their better qualities and made them shine."

With nine new members, the 30-man chapter was better able to practice and share its beliefs. Downtime allowed brothers to talk and joke around, but when they worked on fraternity business, they took their creed seriously. Actives made sure to educate new members on TKE's long-standing history, especially as it related to its philanthropy.

With the event's face lift, participants got to dress up for Halloween a week early. In the first round, seven groups introduced themselves as they showed off their costumes and shared fun facts, such as when Lambda Chi Alpha revealed their Powerpuff Girls personas. Although they embodied sugar, spice and everything nice, the men hid their secret weapon — their biceps.

But more than muscle was needed to make it fur-



Everyone needs a talent. Senior Ashton Bishop, representing Lambda Chi Alpha, conveys the finer points of leg shaving to sophomore Will Deaton during "Teach a TKE a Trick." | Taylor Williams



Showing their pumpkin decorating skills, seniors Olivia Tooker, Anna Sheffer and Millie Harlow from Student Publications take their witchy Weird Sisters theme to the fourth round. | Sadie Wacker



Hoping to win the judges' favor, sophomores Nathan Wallisch, Nathan Stroud and Harrison Randall from Phi Tau 2 flounce sassily across the stage. | Sadie Wacker

“ I felt that TKE was a little nugget hidden away on the east side of campus. ”

ther in the contest since in the second round required brains. Halloween trivia questions stumped a few, such as in what country did jack-o'-lanterns originate (Ireland) and which rock star auditioned but did not get the role of Dr. Frank-N-Furter (Mick Jagger)? Then, it was time to “Teach a TKE a Trick.”

Much to the amusement of the audience, senior Ashton Bishop, of Lambda Chi, taught sophomore Will Deaton how to shave his legs. And while wearing a French maid's outfit, sophomore Michael Pepin had to sweep up the hair once the demonstration was over.

Sigma Alpha Epsilon taught junior Jacob Green how to pick up a woman in seven easy steps by using junior Stuart Watson as a stand-in woman for Green to woo.

“Sticks and stones may break my bones, but whips and chains excite me,” Watson said in response to the romance and flirtation step.

Dressed as the Weird Sisters, the three witches from “Macbeth” (the women actually represented Student Publications) brought crafting and humor to the round.

Senior Millie Harlow taught the art of folding a paper crane to sophomore Raul Macias while senior Anna Sheffer told Halloween jokes.

The final round brought karaoke and pumpkin decorating to the forefront and singled out Student Publications as the winner. The team's delivery of the “Monster Mash” and its “Macbeth”-themed pumpkin won over the judges.

“We were really excited,” Sheffer said. “I was so happy Student Publications won.”

Second place went to SAE with its version of Blue Oyster Cult's “(Don't Fear) The Reaper,” complete with more cowbell, while Lambda Chi took third.

Shortly after announcing the winners, TKE hosted a showing of “Rocky Horror” and relaxed. It wrapped up an enjoyable night and the fraternity was able to donate \$1,100 to St. Jude while promoting brotherhood.

“I felt that TKE was a little nugget hidden away on the east side of campus,” Gilley said. “Once you got to know us, it would be the best part of your college experience.”

“

It was really easy to make a connection with everybody.

”

“rock 4 riley”

The routine was flawless. Freshmen Chandler Kight, Rachel Patch, Mackenzie Kochell and Elle Wirick end their performance to Chris Brown’s “Run It!” with some sweet Alpha Omicron Pi moves. | Sydney Blessinger

Phi Kappa Tau gets it started with the Black Eyed Peas. Freshman Andrew Romisch, sophomore Nathan Wallisch, and senior Josh Taylor break out their finest moves. | Sydney Blessinger

In a special appearance by the Brassholes, seniors David Wantland and Nate Barchett rock out to Jimmy Eat World’s “The Middle” before final acts begin. | Sydney Blessinger



by Katelyn Harbert

ROCKIN' BOWS & BROS

Lights dimmed and the rowdy crowd went quiet as Phi Mu's annual "Rock-4-Riley" began. This lip-syncing, hip-gyrating competition brought teams together to perform all while raising funds for Riley Hospital for Children. But before contestants battled through the rounds, Phi Mu put its time and effort into preparing for the event. Raising money for Riley was something the women focused on year-round.

"It was something that not only sisters here were passionate about, but sisters all over the world," sophomore Kristen Buhrmann said. "It was a truly wonderful feeling knowing that an organization you were a part of could have such a huge impact on a philanthropy such as Riley."

The cause was one everyone could get excited about, and in the weeks leading up to the competition, Phi Mu kept the theme a secret. Senior Kayla Eastman hoped it would draw even more participants with what turned out to be a friendly competition of guys versus gals.

The real surprise came after the first performances. Chi Omega, Zeta Tau Alpha, Alpha Omicron Pi and Lambda Chi Alpha represented the "Bows," and the "Bros" came from Sigma Alpha Epsilon, Phi Kappa Tau and Sigma Phi Epsilon.

Despite the usual mishaps with Eykamp Hall's sound system, each team was able to bring its A-game. Costumes ranged from school uniforms to sweatpants to bandannas, but it was the Lambda Chis who brought the most extreme performance — a rendition of Becky G's "Shower" that ended in dripping wet brothers wearing nothing but skimpy swimsuits and bowties.

But SAE dominated the "Bros" side, and a tie between Chi O Straw and Chi O Rejects meant the three teams faced off in the second round. The twist was that the teams changed sides — Bows became Bros, and Bros became Bows — complete with costume and song switch-ups.

"They drew a song, and they had this terrified look on their faces, and we sent them backstage for seven minutes," Eastman said.



Feeling the music deep in his soul, freshman Craig Beeson belts out "Riff-Off" from 2012's "Pitch Perfect." | MaKayla Seifert

The night's entertainment brought a bit of spontaneity to the organized chaos as the final three groups gathered on stage for a short dance challenge. Despite SAE's apprehension when they drew their Spice Girls' song, they quickly pulled together an entertaining performance that captured first place.

"I thought it was going to be a newer song but we weren't expecting a throwback," freshman Caleb Chesnut said. "We didn't even know the song at first and we had to look it up on our phones."

The Rejects took second and the Straws third, and by the end of the night Phi Mu raised more than \$1,560 for Riley. The women were thankful for the outcome and glad to be able to bring together a night of friendly competitive dancing and lip syncing. But it was the bond they shared and the passion for the cause that they wished to show off most.

"It was really easy to make a connection with everybody," Buhrmann said.



It was a less tangible thing.
It gave the child hope.



"dishes-for-wishes"

Unlike many children standing in line for an elementary school lunch, USI student Lindsey Hanson happily takes the tater tot casserole from junior Rachel Ray. | Amy Parker

Keep piling it on. Sophomores Michelle Karp and Megan Vickrey watch as junior Kelly McKnight scoops some of her homemade baked beans onto their plates. | Amy Parker



If food was involved, a large audience was usually guaranteed. A line of people winded all the way down past WUEV waiting to get in as the smell of home-cooking floated through Eykamp Hall. But Chi Omega's "Dishes-for-Wishes" was about more than long lines and good food, it was about giving a child hope.

"We talked a lot about how [the support] was a less tangible thing," senior Kelsie Dye said. "That it gave the child hope to keep fighting, gave them courage to help with their psyche throughout the whole treatment."

The Make-a-Wish Foundation reported in 2012 that it cost about \$8,140 to grant a wish. That became Chi O's goal. The women co-hosted a wish-granting party for a local child last year with the baseball team, but raising \$8,000 was not easy to do.

"It was just coming up with different ways to reach our goal," Dye said, "because sometimes you just reached capacity on how many people you could feed."

As her chapter's philanthropy chair, she understood this challenge well. But that didn't keep her from pulling out all the stops. With almost 400 guests ready to enjoy the food, having enough of it and keeping it warm was the first order of business.

Once in line, the sisters serving their dishes often piled guests' plates high with small spoonfuls of each dish, mixing together more food than the plate could hold before attendees got back in line for seconds.

Senior Henry Voss chose the potato soup as the best item of the night, but that didn't keep him from trying a variety of other entrees and desserts. But keeping the two separate soon became too difficult and sometimes the chocolate pudding just ended up in the middle of the casserole.

"I just turned the plate around as I needed to," he said. "It turned out that sausage and chocolate taste weird together."

Many said the food was their favorite part — to no one's surprise — but Chi O was eager to share their message about the children. Frames displaying their pic-



Talking with sophomore Michelle Sonnenberger doesn't stop 2014 alumna Alyssa Thorp and her boyfriend, Phillip Clark, from cleaning their plates. | Willian Mallmann

tures and wish stories decorated the tables and a slideshow of fun facts and photos played throughout the two-hour event. These women knew putting a face to their cause would only help raise more money.

And while their dinner party was the biggest event of the year, smaller events took support elsewhere, like the "Rock-a-Thon" philanthropy in the spring that donated to the Albion Fellows Bacon Center.

Even the leftovers brought help and support. The remaining food was donated to the House of Bread and Peace, a local shelter for homeless women and children. But the best part of the night came when the event's success brought more than \$6,000 to put toward one child's wish.

"There were 400 people there because each of us had impacted them somehow so that they'd come support us," sophomore Riley Horlock said.

MORE THAN A MORSEL

by Mackenzie Bruce

IT TAKES TWO TO DANCE

Not everyone knew how many ex-boyfriends Taylor Swift had. But the audience at Sigma Phi Epsilon's "Sig Ep A-Go-Go" learned fun facts and trivia about romance during the duet-themed competition benefiting Big Brothers Big Sisters.

Even though "A-Go-Go" happened annually, Sig Ep always found ways to keep the philanthropy fresh and people entertained. With this year's event happening right before Valentine's Day, everything reflected companionship and "Sig Ep A-Duo."

Eight teams took turns showing off their moves. Chi Omega "Straw" coordinated red, white and pink tops to match the Valentine's Day feel as the team danced to Olly Murs' and Travie McCoy's "Wrapped Up." Other songs featured both popular artists like Beyonce and Pitbull and throwbacks like Britney Spears and NSYNC.

Zeta Tau Alpha "Think Pink" chose

"Grease" songs for its performance. Dressed in black leather jackets and pink sweaters they danced to "Summer Nights" and "You're the One That I Want."

Sig Ep liked to choose an open theme each year so that groups could interpret it in their own ways, keeping the event as unique as the fraternity's personality. Members might have some common traits, but their passions and characteristics were still rather diverse.

"Our fraternity in general was known to be not too mainstream," junior Nasib AlHafar said, "and I think this philanthropy focused on characteristics of the individual."

After five finalists were chosen from the first round and sent backstage to improvise a 30-second, second-round routine, members of Sig Ep came onstage to showcase what had become a tradition at "A-Go-Go" — the fraternity's entertainment contribution to the event.

The audience cheered when freshmen Trenton McCorkle — flaunting shorts, a biki-

ni top and a large foam finger — and Dominic Bolt started dancing together. The excitement escalated when several other brothers came out twirling umbrellas. The routine concluded with the men sauntering shirtless down the center aisle of Eykamp Hall to Mark Ronson's and Bruno Mars' "Uptown Funk."

The crowd-pleasing performance was only a taste of the shenanigans that Sig Ep got into as a fraternity. Brothers were not afraid to be ridiculous since their house was the site of good times. It was not strange to see brothers playing floor hockey in the foyer or riding a Ripstick. Music might blast at inconvenient times at night, and brothers always knew they could just go to another room if they were ever bored.

"You could tell we enjoyed being with each other and messing around and having a good time," junior Will Patzke said.

After Sig Ep's performance, the five remaining teams churned out improvised moves to clips of songs including Eminem's



Juniors Mackenzie Bruce and Megan Fetterman, freshmen Kendi Klein and Breanna Engle, sophomore Ashley Kippley and senior Jackie Kossoff dance to Pitbull's and Bebe Rexha's "This Is Not a Drill." | Willian Mallmann



Are your chills multiplying? As Danny Zuko, sophomore Brianna Nichols dances across stage and belts out the lyrics to well-known "Grease" songs. | Willian Mallmann





It was how we felt on a regular basis.
Just spunky and carefree.



and Rihanna's "Love the Way You Lie" and Jordin Sparks' and Chris Brown's "No Air." It was the Chi O "Cardinals" who took first place, and even the prizes, which included a box of chocolates and a giant stuffed animal dog, fitted the romantic theme.

As "A-Go-Go" proved, Sig Eps always knew how to have fun. Brothers were just as likely to go camping as they were to do community service together, and their belief in a balanced life was reflected in their values and in the non-profit organizations they supported.

In addition to raising almost \$2,800 for Big Brothers Big Sisters, "A-Go-Go" showed Sig Ep's ability to turn the cheesiness of Valentine's Day into a fun themed philanthropy.

"The overall feeling people had going into and coming out of 'A-Go-Go' — it was how we felt on a regular basis," junior Phillip Smith said. "Just spunky and carefree."



Troy and Gabriella from 2006's "High School Musical" have nothing on these women. Soaring across the stage atop her sorority sister's back, freshman McKala Troxler and junior Becky Calahan give "Breaking Free" a Chi Omega spin. | Willian Mallmann



This round finds senior Brei Simpson and juniors Taylor Groves, Marley Hannabass, Molly Chidester and Maggie Limmer mixing it up. | MaKayla Seifert

"sig ep a-go-go"



"So honey now." The women in the audience swoon as sophomore David Poindexter sweetly sings Ed Sheeran's "Thinking Out Loud." | MaKayla Seifert



During a special appearance from the Ladies in Pink, senior Maryam Abdi and graduate student Jenn Zuckerman sing an a cappella mash-up of popular songs. | MaKayla Seifert

ONE SWING AT A TIME

by Mackenzie Bruce

Alpha Omicron Pi hit it out of the park again with its baseball-themed philanthropy "Survival of the Fittest." Clad in white baseball jerseys with their letters blazoned in red down the front, the women were more than ready to raise money for Arthritis Research and Holly's House — and to have a little fun in the meantime.

With Eykamp Hall decorated in red, white and blue streamers — and a bunch of baseball-themed balloons mixed in with the other decorations — the annual event drew in men who vied for the title in the most sportsman-like way they could. Each of the nine participants demonstrated some sort of talent — a number of skillful ones along with a few peculiar ones thrown in for good measure.

From singing to playing piano and violin, to teaching cheesy pickup lines to drawing caricatures, the contestants worked to entertain the audience while also showing their support for the charities. Whatever the men's talents, the competition was a way for AOPi to "strikeout arthritis" by bringing awareness and financial support to two deserving groups.

For sophomore Taylor Davidson the fight against arthritis was personal, since her 13-year-old niece, Payton Pierce, suffered from juvenile arthritis. Pierce talked about her seven-year battle with the disease, sharing that 300,000 children suffered from its debilitating effects. Her plight tugged at the heartstrings of the audience, and she received a standing ovation.

"Before she talked I was like 'I want to win this,'" freshman Caleb Chesnut said. "But after she talked, I knew it didn't matter what happened, that this was all for awareness."

This was one of the goals for AOPi, but it also reflected the inspiration they got from one another. Whether it was through midnight fast-food runs or a willingness to listen when one of the sisters needed someone to talk to, these women knew they could depend on one another for just about everything. Being an AOPi meant offering support whenever it was needed, be it as an established member or a new one.

"When I initially took office [as president], I was a little intimidated by the responsibility," junior Kather-



So totally into the song, sophomore Timothy Schaefer eventually stoops down on a knee as he belts out the lyrics to Journey's "Faithfully," which earns him third place. | MaKayla Seifert

ine Eckert said. "But in the end, I never needed to worry because having such a great group of women made my job really easy, and it was easy to lead when you felt the love."

Even when Davidson became rather overwhelmed as she planned "Survival" as AOPi's philanthropy chair, her sisters were quick to be by her side.

"Some of my sisters came over and said, 'Take a deep breath, stop worrying about it and everything will turn out fine,'" she said. "It was such a little thing but it meant so much to me."

The show started with the traditional group dance by the contestants, this year to Miley Cyrus' "Party in the U.S.A.," and the pageant walk — with the men nicely dressed and paired with a member of AOPi. Ultimately, each man was judged on personality, humor and his campus involvement, and the introduction round allowed them to capture the judges' attention through quips and jokes. But the talent round got the most laughs and applause from the audience.

"survival of the fittest"

While some — like Chesnut, from Sigma Alpha Epsilon, sophomore Timothy Schaefer, from Sigma Phi Epsilon, sophomore David Poindexter, representing Phi Mu, and junior George Carroll, from Phi Kappa Tau — sang ballads or played their favorite instruments, others gave performances that were a little unconventional, especially senior Garrett Johnson, representing Zeta Tau Alpha. He taught senior Hannah Barrow how to swim, and his laidback approach gathered the most laughs from the audience.

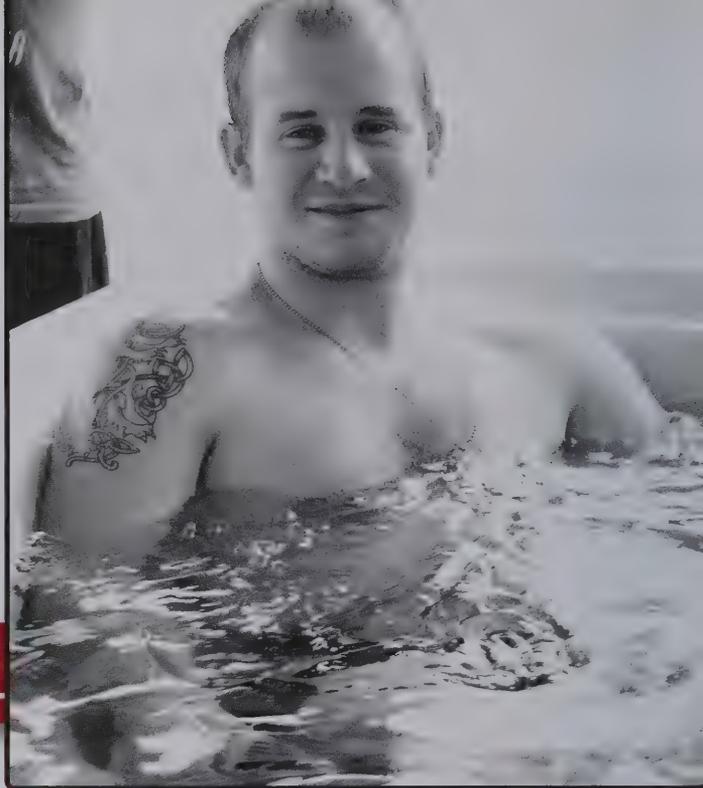
Johnson managed to sway the judges too, since he won the title. Chesnut took second, with third going to Schaefer, who was also named Mr. Congeniality and won the crowd pleaser award. AOPi raised \$1,317 for its two philanthropies.

"We were very appreciative of everyone who attended to support our philanthropy," Eckert said. "It was nice to know that we were contributing to a cause that was greater than ourselves."

“ It was nice to know that we were contributing to a cause that was greater than ourselves. ”

Relaxing never felt so good. Sophomore Andrew Gallagher soaks his troubles away while enjoying the companionship with his brothers and other friends. | Taylor Williams

Will she make it out unscathed or get some help falling back in? Senior Dimi Mayorga hopes graduate student Eric Stoessel plays nice as she tries to get out of the hot tub without getting drenched and sophomore Donovan Preston keeps an eye on what is happening. | Taylor Williams



"hot tub-a-thon"



by Joy Grace Chen

KICKED BACK FOR A CAUSE

Nothing felt better before finals than soaking in a hot tub, and thus Phi Gamma Delta's annual philanthropy, "Hot-Tub-A-Thon," always proved a popular hit. But the brothers knew it more for the money it raised for the Easter Seals Rehabilitation Center.

As an event that began at noon and ended at 3 a.m. the next day, "Hot-Tub" was already a lengthy ordeal, but it was really the end of a fundraising process that started in the fall. Brothers contacted donors and put on givebacks throughout the year, collecting money that would be presented to Easter Seals at the end of the philanthropy.

"Most people knew it as "Hot-Tub-A-Thon," the overnight hot tub marathon where we sat in hot tubs and ate food all night," junior Nathan Winters said. "But what most people didn't know about was the yearlong campaign and how much thought went into it."

Committing to this came naturally to these men, as service was one of their five core values — the others being friendship, knowledge, morality and excellence. They loved serving the community, and "Hot-Tub" gave them the chance to meet Easter Seals patient 9-year-old Abby. After some coaxing, she agreed to take a picture with those who just happened to be sitting in the hot tub, and her smile gave a face to the cause.

"[It was great] when people like Abby came in and when we got to see work we did have a positive effect on people," junior Ben Phillips said.

Lured by the hot tub and thoughts of relaxing, members of other organizations joined the brothers under a blue-and-white canopy tent throughout the day and into the night. Participants enjoyed chowing down on grilled hot dogs and hamburgers and horsing around in the water.

"Kids, don't make me turn this hot tub around," junior Bianca Frasier, a Zeta Tau Alpha, said jokingly when antics and dunking got crazy.

With the presence of different groups, "Hot-Tub" was also an event that reflected FJI's sociable personality. Brothers loved hanging out, especially if food was involved. They would go camping, have a mini golf tournament in the house or watch March Madness on four TVs set up in their lobby. FJI's tropical island vibe clearly didn't end with the name of their fraternity.

"It was laidback but we were also supporting a cause," junior Nicholas Schuetz said. "We were able to take those two passions and fuse them together."

As a result of a 15-hour philanthropy, FJI raised \$5,000 for Easter Seals and benefited the community while kicking back in a comfy, heated tub.

💧💧 Kids, don't make me turn this hot tub around. 💧💧



Is there any better way to spend an afternoon? Senior Grant Hales, junior Bianca Frasier and freshman Riley Maynor find that soaking in the hot tub, having some food and hanging out with friends works wonders for everyone. | Taylor Williams



Who's all in? Freshman Spike Yusuf is stuck watching after losing everything to sophomore Ryan Lane. But sophomores Bhuree Dardarananda and Andrew Nunn haven't given up yet as the regular Wednesday night poker game goes until one person is left with all the chips. In the end, Lane took home the glory and everyone's chips. | MaKayla Seifert



IT'S **H**ome

It came with the territory. Attending college meant living in campus housing. It meant weighing co-ed living against privacy and air conditioning against cost. But it also meant that each place had its own personality, some good, some bad. As freshmen, we didn't know any of this and living in a hall often came with sharing space with someone we had never met before. But we soon had dorm life down. Our first close friendships were often built around those who lived near us, and we quickly learned the endearing qualities that lay behind the stigmas of smells, insects and overbearing amounts of estrogen or testosterone. If there was a nook in our hall that was better for studying than anywhere else, we knew it. If there was a cranny where no one could find us when we needed to be alone, we found it. When we finally had enough credits to move into the Villages — to live with North's loud fans, the Ramona's rippling floors or the townhouses' drafty windows — we learned to love these quirks too. We may have moved from one space to another, we may have stayed in the same building all four years, but no matter where we lived, it was home while we were there.



How many bobs does it take to catch an apple? After a few tries, sophomore Michael Stairs emerges wet but victorious with the fruit captured securely in his teeth during the hall's "Hale-o-ween" event. | Willian Mallmann

In the Dark of the Man Cave

No amount of air fresheners lining the corridors could cover the musty scent — that was what Hale Hall was known for. Most would agree that at those values, the all-male residence hall did not have much going for it. But it did have one thing. During any time of any given day, guys could be found in their man cave — the gameroom.

"I didn't know why, but Hale had a surprising amount of social activity for a place that had nothing," junior Cody Fiscus said. "It was small, it smelled bad, but still people wanted to come and hang out. The gameroom was just the place to be."

Isolated from the hallways but still attached to the hall, the gameroom gave residents a place to be loud, hang out and relax for much of their free time. Some estimated spending as many as four or five hours a day playing pool and air hockey or eating meals and watching TV.

The addition of a brand-new 50-inch LG TV attracted residents who wanted to watch sports or anime outside of their rooms, which built the gameroom's social atmosphere. There were even residents who used the space to do homework, feeling they could focus better despite the ongoing activity.

"I spent more time in there than my room," sophomore John Leffert said. "I got too easily distracted in my room, mainly by my bed."

Even those who didn't have the time to hang in the gameroom utilized the area in other ways. Hall events, like Hale's annual Super Bowl party, were hosted there, and it was where hall council met, either to conduct business or goof off with residential coordinator Calvin Wertman.

But the main attraction of the room was Ping-Pong. Residents were always playing — the hall even host-

ed a tournament. Ping-Pong and the gameroom brought residents together from all floors and helped alleviate the stress of meeting new people.

"Since it was such a social environment, I felt like I could get to know people better in there," freshman Michael Lucas said. "It was where I met most of my friends, and it was through Ping-Pong."

But the gameroom was the hall's gathering ground, not its core. While life would not have been the same without it, each floor had its own individual vacuum cleaners and floor events that characterized them. But in the end, they ended up in one place.

"The hub of Hale was on the floors where they met each other," Fiscus said. "As the groups grew, then they came down to the gameroom. But at the end of the night they still went their separate ways and back into the depths of Hale."



While enjoying a chilled cup of lemonade, freshman Codey Rohl and sophomore David Busler discuss their video game preferences. | William Mallmann



While sophomore William Feng checks out what's going on in the gameroom, sophomore Robert Gonzales battles freshman Joshua Estridge. | William Mallmann

It May Be Old, But It's Ours

A run-down, social sauna — broken down to the basics, that was what most thought about the oldest residence hall. The so-called Hughes Hall, built in 1958, was the only one without air conditioning or controlled heat, and many focused on the ancient furniture and the scratches and stains found everywhere.

But for its residents, Hughes was so much more than old. The front desk was jokingly called “the black hole” because every evening it inevitably sucked a few residents into long conversations with resident assistants. The hall had a fun, laid-back atmosphere created by those who lived there.

“Nothing funny happened in the hall,” senior Aaron McGee joked. “It was actually usually somber. I usually walked around in a sackcloth and ash.”

No one really knew what made Hughes so social. Most guessed it came from solidarity at living in less than favorable conditions or the residents’ habit of leaving their doors open for air circulation. It was a place where groups loitered in the hallways at all times and everyone was easy to talk to.

“We would just sit in the middle of the hallway and do homework, even though we had perfectly good rooms,” junior Brittany Soderberg said. “And we would just be loud and obnoxious and it would be OK.”

Residents felt comfortable in a home that was a little more run-down, even if there was one downfall — cockroaches. While Hughes had no more of a problem than any other hall, there was a misconception that it had more

creepy crawlies than the rest.

“People seemed to have that idea in their heads that we’d have those bug issues since we were an older hall,” senior Catie Witt said, “but that really wasn’t the case.”

Most residents never had a single incident, or maybe had one cockroach sighting a year, but others frequently found them skittering in the laundry room or basement.

Such run-ins, full of screaming and Raid, resulted in more hilarity than fear or became a source of war stories for the residents. But rumors about one more thing crept down the hallways — a ghost they named Sarah.

Officially, the hall had no ghost, but that did not stop new residents from thinking the third floor was closed because it was haunted. Ghost Sarah was blamed for occurrences like slamming doors, self-starting hand dryers and static-filled voicemails.

“Since I never had an experience, it was more fun to joke about Sarah,” sophomore Morgan Lambert said. “But there were people who strongly believed in Sarah and who strongly didn’t.”

Decrepit, infested and haunted, sometimes Hughes resembled a horror movie gone wrong more than a hall, but its residents loved it. Whether they spent their time in the hall studying and sleeping or pulling pranks and having Nerf gun wars, year after year they chose to live there.

“We complained about it, but at the end of the day it was our home,” Lambert said. “It was the best hall.”





This is no simple face carving. Sophomores Nick Raupp and Victoria Geisz turn their pumpkin into art as they take turns cutting the branches and leaves of their envisioned tree into it. | Sydney Blessinger

Not despicable. Sophomores Gilbert Sanchez and Araly Flores turn a pumpkin into a minion. | Sydney Blessinger

Indian food and henna tattoos lure sophomore Ashley Kippley out of her room to the lobby where senior Catie Witt sits with her tube of ink. | Sydney Blessinger

"Who writes #hashtag in a tweet?" Junior Jalen Stepp and sophomore Kelsey Fields laugh at people's different tagging choices on Twitter. | William Mallmann

"Oh, look what I've got." Sophomore Kay Sheets proudly presents her perfect snowflake. | William Mallmann



After a messy flour-flinging war, freshmen Derek Hammelman, Caleb Chesnut and Gunner Pickens finally see their gooey globs of salt, flour, oil and water turning into play dough. | MaKayla Seifert



After adorning the tree with Christmas lights, freshman Thomas Jandebour evenly places ornaments from top to bottom. | MaKayla Seifert



In Uno with a twist, sophomores Lisi Miller and Kenzie Jones get to know their neighbors when a question card is played. | MaKayla Seifert

The Dorm That Never Sleeps

With three floors and a basement full of people who came from highly diverse backgrounds, it wasn't hard to imagine that Moore Hall was the preferred place to live for many students.

During the oddest hours of the night, one could hear pots and pans clanging as nocturnal international students prepared native dishes to get themselves through another long homework session — though others often skipped the studying or took extra-long breaks to compete in Ping-Pong and pool tournaments in the often-used gameroom.

"Moore was known as the dorm that never slept," sophomore Francis Prexl said. "Usually, it was a very tight community."

With four formal study rooms, a computer room, two entertainment areas and the gameroom, there were always people hanging out in the basement. Many used the rooms to socialize and wind down after a long day.

"I loved living in Moore," freshman Megan Mead said. "The [Students in Math and Science] floor was what I originally liked, but the amazing people who lived in the building were a great perk."

The residence hall even had its own mascot. A stuffed robot, dubbed Rob Ot, could always be found in a resident assistant's room, snuggling in some pillows or hanging out by a window.

Moore was known for this lovable robot, as well as having an abundance of students from around the world and the SIMS floor, which was dedicated to science-brained students who took their studies most seriously. But the hall won the hearts of more than just those.

Residents also took advantage of the many opportunities to relax and get to know other students during organized events. From gathering to watch episodes of "The Walking Dead" to joining up in the basement's cafe-like dining area for a pizza feast, students weren't afraid to introduce themselves to those they did not know.

With bigger, hall-wide events like "Moore's Got Talent" to volunteer days at PetSmart, there was never time for anyone to get bored.

"We started a talent show last year," Prexl said, "and we were going to keep it going this year, too, because our residents were so artistically talented."

Other fun opportunities gave residents a chance to get to know their neighbors. Open Door Night happened every Wednesday evening and it gave everyone the chance to earn prizes, while RAs learned more about the students who lived in the hall.

"Moore Hall had a great overall atmosphere," Mead said. "There were always people milling around, and they weren't afraid to say hello."



No spoon for you: Freshman Micah Lane uses his finger to stir his gooey concoction. | MaKayla Seifert



With her chips getting low, sophomore Sara Wolpert checks her opponents' cards as she contemplates her next move during the hall's poker night. | MaKayla Seifert

Two Separate Worlds, One Family

A cozy living room complete with couches and a giant-screened TV in a space affectionately called the pit might have connected the two buildings, but the all-female residence halls definitely had their own personalities. Whether quiet or boisterous, tidy or charmingly messy, Morton and Brentano halls were full of women who learned to live together peacefully and loved their home.

Although both buildings were occupied by women, from all class standings to Greeks to athletes, residents often noted the different feel of the two halls.

"Morton was more of the calmer side just because there were fewer people," freshman Liz Lung said. "And Brentano was just more lively and had more friend groups."

Being able to connect with residents in both halls was easy for the women. Morton residents were said to be a little bit more studious, finding themselves in the study rooms quite often. And while the women on the Brentano side didn't neglect their studies, they were the ones up socializing at all hours of the night.

Despite such differences, the homey feel of the pit and various hall events often brought residents together, whether they lived on the same floor or in different buildings.

"You had a big communal aspect," sophomore Nicolette Juncker said. "But it was great to live with the people you went to school with. I felt like there were so many things that spontaneously happened so we were always entertained."

Floor events such as "Twister" gave residents a carefree

study break and resident assistants knew food would always draw people out of their rooms. They hosted a dual-hall Halloween event, dubbed it "CarnEVIL," and found residents enjoying a trivia contest, pumpkin bowling and a guessing game that bordered on the grotesque.

Even when the pit wasn't hosting hall events, residents returned there again and again for weekly dinners or movie nights. Even residents from other halls envied the space and accessibility of the pit.

"That was so nice that we had that option of putting in a movie," Lung said. "We tried watching a movie once in Schroeder [Hall]. We were all just curled up in each other's beds. We were like this is fun but we were way too close."

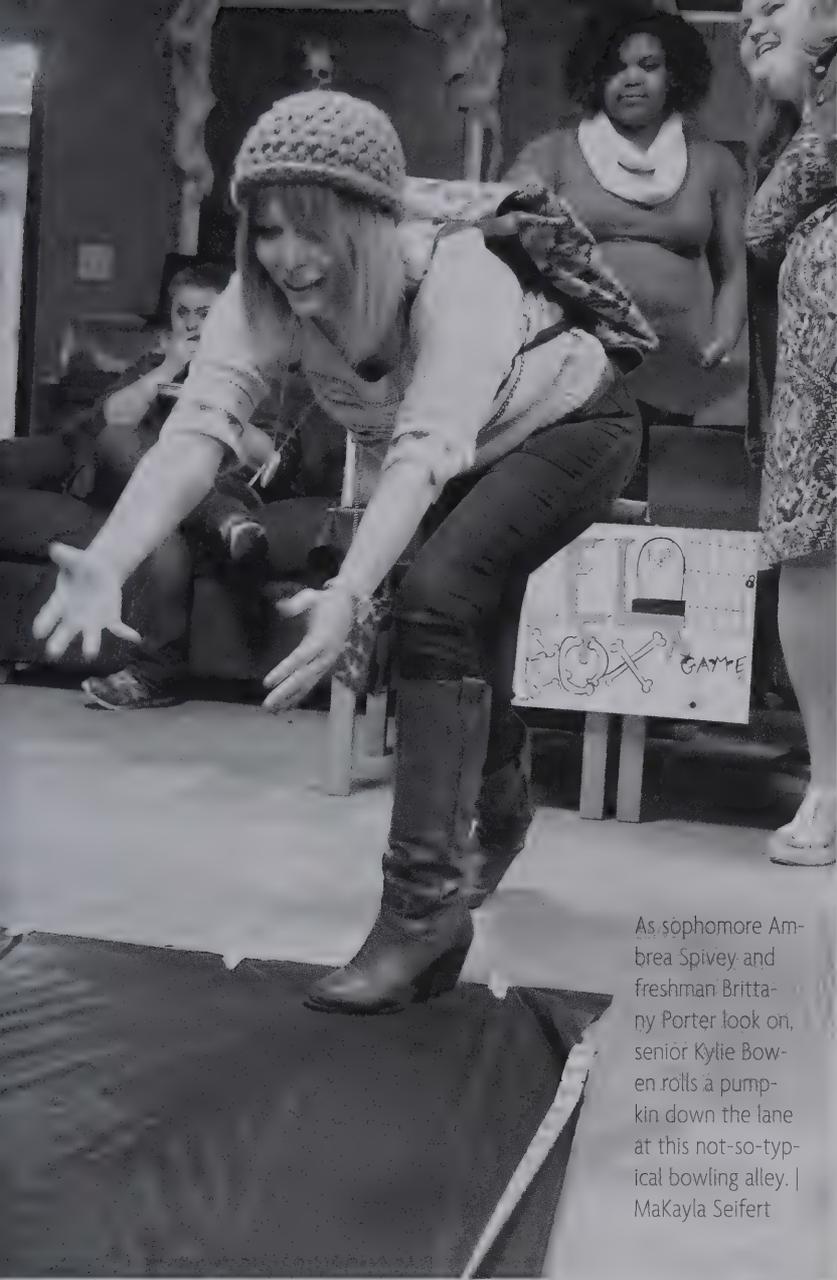
Others preferred spending free or homework time in the study rooms, sometimes having their friends join them for all-nighters. But when they weren't being used for studying or craft projects, everyone had an understanding about the spacious first-floor study rooms.

"It was widely accepted that they were not study rooms," Lung said. "They were 'call or Skype my mom or my boyfriend' rooms."

Whether residents fell in love with the effervescent and larger-than-life personality of Brentano or the quiet and more sedate character of Morton, the halls became a place that each resident came to call home.

"It was very friendly," Lung said. "There weren't many people who you said, 'Oh, I don't know you.' When we hosted events it wasn't awkward; we all lived together."





As sophomore Ambrea Spivey and freshman Brittaney Porter look on, senior Kylie Bowen rolls a pumpkin down the lane at this not-so-typical bowling alley. | MaKayla Seifert



Freshman Giulia Mallman and sophomore Kate Slater laugh as they add googly eyes to animal stickers. | MaKayla Seifert



Say what? Freshman Caroline Roberts watches freshman Marlina Eveslage start the Feel Box game. | MaKayla Seifert



Correct lighting is a hard thing to get in the pit as freshman Hanna Collins-Riddle captures memories during her first campus Halloween. | MaKayla Seifert

Without looking, sophomore Faye Engles squeezes slush between her fingers and tries to name the mushy, mystery item for a prize. | MaKayla Seifert

Watching closely, sophomore Rebecca Webb mimics the motions of sophomore Hannah Bengtson as they make T-shirt headbands. | Taylor Williams

Crafting and eating sweets, freshmen Carlene Widmer and Hunter Brittingham joke around and make colorful masks at a floor event. | William Mallmann

Oh Won't You Be My Neighbor

Multicolored scribbles covered the whiteboards of the Honors Lounge, ranging from science diagrams and math equations to poems and to-do lists. The 79 honors students who lived in Powell Hall came from majors as diverse as those doodles, but they refused to be labeled by brainiac stereotypes.

Brainy didn't mean antisocial if you lived in Powell. It wasn't like the residents studied in their rooms all hours of the day and shushed every happy soul in the hallways. They got to know each other and enjoyed wasting time together too.

"All the people really knew each other," sophomore Sarah Stuckwisch said. "And it was really common for me to see [them] just sitting out in the hallway chatting with each other."

While the misconception that honors students were shy hermits initially made some residents hesitant about

living in Powell, the hall created an environment that felt more like a neighborhood than a residence hall. Collections of people were easy to find — especially in the lounge where they formed study groups with peers and other friends, who could be helpful or the opposite.

"Sometimes, there was peer pressure to get your work done," sophomore Michael Duckett said. "But sometimes it was distracting because you knew them. You knew what they were studying. You ended up talking to them instead of studying."

Students were used to seeing and greeting familiar faces, from other students to the housekeepers, and they felt comfortable knocking on doors.

"People weren't just cubed away in their rooms," sophomore Mandy Feagans said. "They were out and about."

Communal food enhanced the neighborly feel of Powell. Residents

who liked to cook and bake occasionally left sweet treats in the lounge. And one resident who lived in the apartment above the hall office was actually a teacher. Mary Therese Padberg, assistant professor of mathematics, supplied desserts for the hall's weekly honors tea.

Besides socializing over snacks, residents also participated in a variety of hall events, defying yet another stereotype — that honors students didn't know the meaning of fun. Ice cream parties, craft nights and venturing outside to play "Sardines" served as great study breaks.

Powell was home to students who agonized over the lack of printer paper and who worked diligently through genetics problems. But the residents were friendly neighbors, proved by an encouraging note on the whiteboard that said: "Smile! You're awesome."



Slicing pumpkins is harder than it seems as freshman Alice Daum and sophomore Heidi Schreur have to use some muscle. | Sydney Blessinger



At the first candy stop, freshmen Anna Kalt and Samantha Petitjean joke with the trick-or-treaters enjoying the hall event. | Bethany Boeglin



Who's under that sheet? As a poor ol' broken doll, freshman Maia Carlisle shares some of her candy with another freshman, ghostly Jennifer Riedford. | Bethany Boeglin



Instead of using normal carving tools, junior Peter Orkiszewski saws away with a steak knife. | Sydney Blessinger



While sophomore Adrian deSilva carefully slices his way through a massive pumpkin, sophomore Mandy Feagans tries her hand at delicately carving a miniature jack-o'-lantern. | Sydney Blessinger

Cooking up trouble. Freshman Samantha Mackey is amazed as sophomores Susan Norris and Danielle Freeman turn the kitchen into a smoky situation. | Taylor Williams

Careful to not cover herself in glue, junior Marketa Trousilova adds one more story to the times she used glitter and only made a mess. | MaKayla Seifert

After frosting her sugar cookie, sophomore Katie Beaber gets creative as she adds blue details and makes a decorative masterpiece. | Sadie Wacker

Simply in awe, senior Hope Mills watches carefully as junior Mike Sullivan skillfully spins his ornament with a hair dryer instead of his fingers. | MaKayla Seifert



Our Home Away from Home Field

Off the beaten path from the rest of the residence halls, Schroeder Hall sometimes seemed like the odd hall out. It was known as the athletes' residence, and those who didn't live there often considered it standoffish and intimidating. But its residents knew otherwise.

Schroeder was not a loud building, but it was also not quiet," sophomore Cesar Guitunga said. "You could have a social life, but you could also get some privacy."

Schroeder was not considered a social hall. There were community spaces like the gameroom and the lobby where residents congregated, but the building's L-shape meant many stayed on their own side.

"I talked to a few of my neighbors, but I didn't really talk to anyone who was around the corner because I never saw them," sophomore Katie Beaber said. "Even in the bathrooms we had separate sinks."

Many of the athletes had teammates who lived in different parts of the hall. That created bridges between floors, but the distance between the athletes and residents who were not athletes was sometimes hard to overcome.

"It made it tough for the nonathletes because they were somewhat intimidated," Guitunga said. "But once that barrier was down, the athletes got more support at their events and the others got to see that the athletes weren't antisocial or reserved."

Hall and floor events brought some residents together in

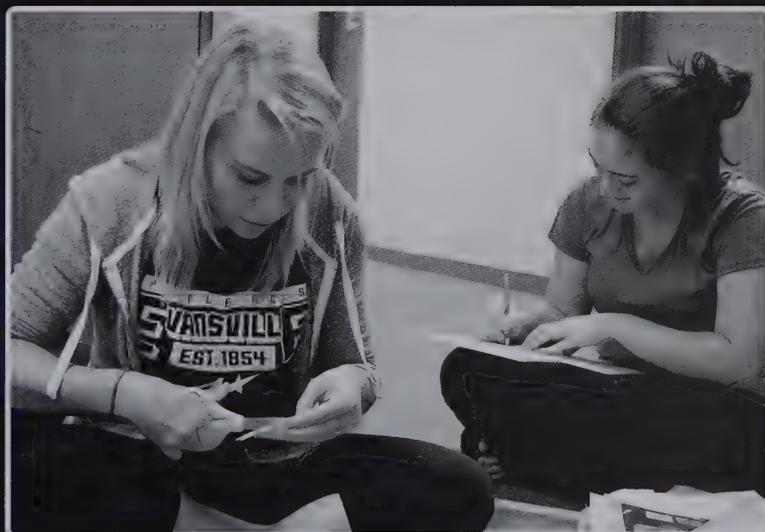
the common spaces. Some watched the Super Bowl in the lobby, made crayon-colored ornaments in study rooms and cooked breakfast at midnight in the kitchen.

There was also a competition where each floor had a "house" that earned and lost points for things like attending events and being cited for incidents. Floors were rewarded with such things as speakers and lockout passes if their house won a three-week cycle. Hall events also enticed residents with the promise of house points, and when residents stayed to socialize they reaped even more benefits.

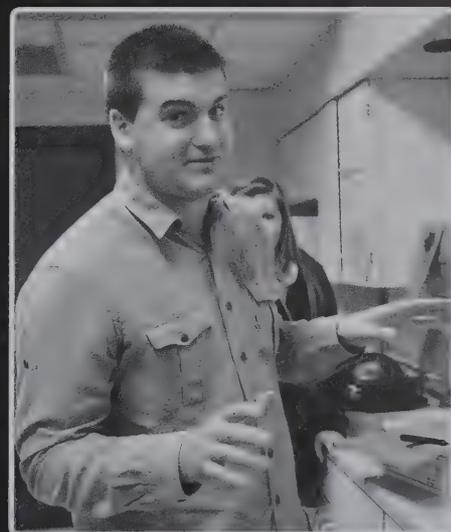
"Usually they tried to just pass through," Guitunga said, "but if something was interesting enough or if there was enough food to keep them, you would see them sticking around and interacting, and then you saw them hanging out days later."

Schroeder was a hall isolated from the others on campus, but many residents lived there because it allowed them a couple more minutes to sleep before they had to roll out of bed and head to Carson Center for early morning practice. But students who lived there were more than just athletes and the hall was far from unsociable.

"I had always heard that Schroeder didn't have any type of community at all, but I think people who said that have never lived here," senior Hope Mills said. "It was a different type of community from the other halls, but it was definitely a community."



Roommates who craft together stay together. Sophomores Maggie Lawrence and Cassidy Bible make decorations for their door. | MaKayla Seifert



Tried of waiting, sophomore Brandon Hilby takes over the cooking. | Taylor Williams

Movin' On Up to the Villages

Living in the Villages was like being one step closer to adulthood. Residents didn't have to pay the water bill or spend all day at a 9-to-5 job. But they had their own houses and apartments to cook in and clean. The Villages gave residents just enough confidence to think they'd probably be living in the real world.

"I grew so much in being a grown up and buying my own groceries and making a budget," junior Sarah Cheatham said. "I thought it was going to help me transition to graduate school or living with a roommate."

Whether students lived in a townhouse, North Hall, the Weinbach apartments or any other dwelling that made up the Villages, most agreed that the benefits far outweighed any negatives that came with it.

"They were just far enough from the heart of campus that I didn't feel excluded, but enough that I felt like I could get away," junior Alyana Ladha said.

This might have explained why upperclass students disappeared from Ridgway Center after classes — they had their own space to call home. They traded lounging in Ridgway all hours of the day and night with watching Netflix while sitting on their own couches. Rather than eating with the loud lunch crowd, they had their own relaxing space.

Whether someone had one roommate or five, students

learned a lot about how to live with a various personalities. Chore charts, roommate meetings and weekly dinners were often like a family dynamic, and students learned more about whom they could or could not live with.

Some made schedules for who was taking out the trash, doing the dishes or cleaning the bathroom, while others just waited until they had a free minute to help out. And many roommates made dinner to share since they didn't need to rely on Sodexo's nightly offerings.

Residents also had their own personal space, and with it came the opportunity to decorate every wall, study in quiet or have an excuse to leave dirty clothes all over the floor for weeks. Roommates and neighbors were always close by if anyone needed them, but never too close.

"The people that lived around me, I saw them, so it was close enough," Cheatham said. "But people weren't seeing you right when you woke up. I don't think I saw the same person doing laundry the whole year."

With more responsibilities and a different residential feel, the Villages gave residents the chance to grow up in their own way.

"Living with six people, that was my village," Ladha said. "Like we had taco nights, we went on adventures together. It felt more like home."



Splotching with sponges and swirling with sticks, seniors Anastacia Peadro and Alexis Niese enjoy an evening of creative crafting. | Kate Sarber



Senior Christina Miller gets egg-cited as she prepares to decorate and dye some eggs. | Taylor Williams



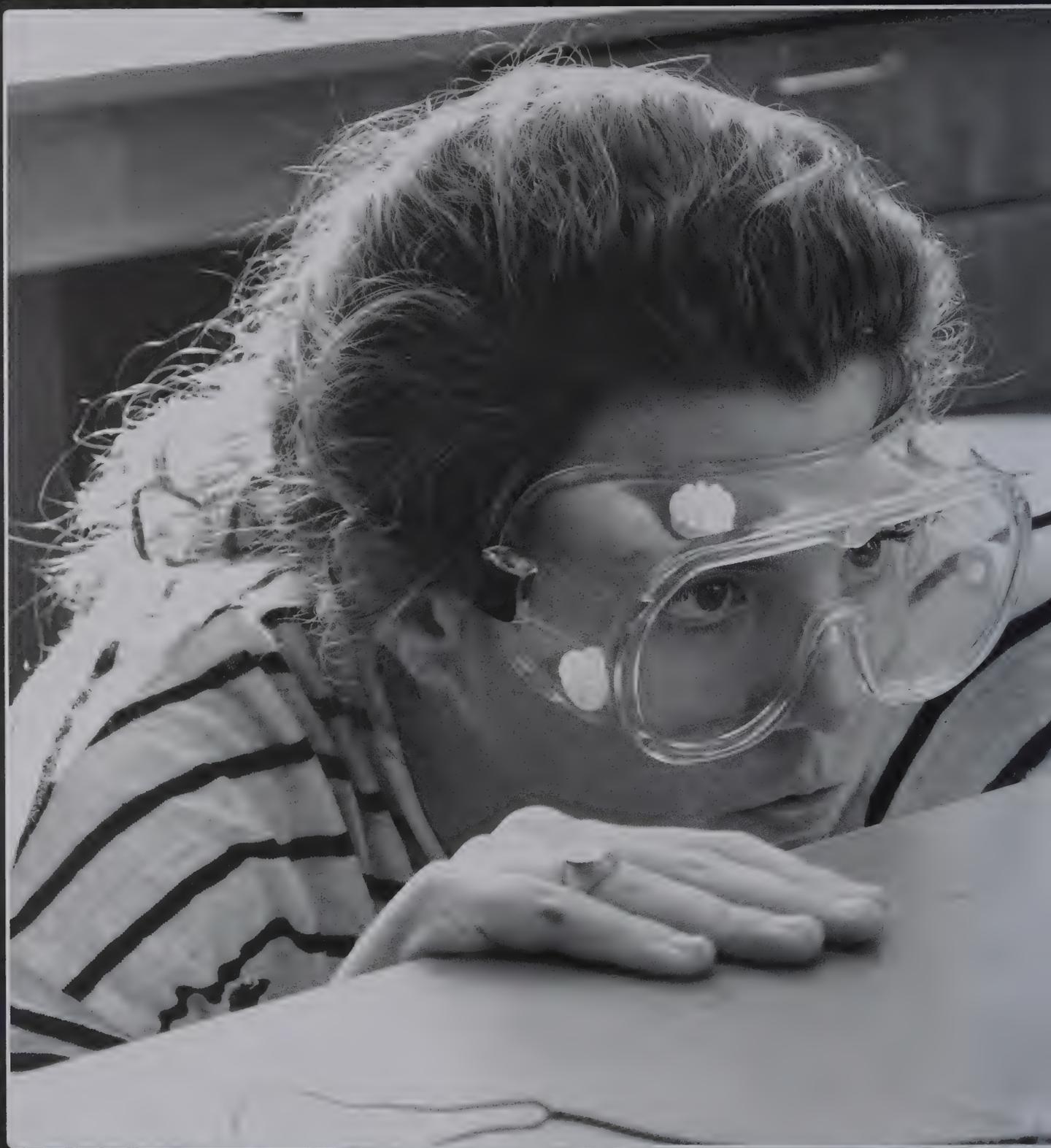
Testing junior Kirk Holden's dry cookie dough mixture, juniors Sarah Cheatham and Adam Anthony debate where he went wrong before deciding if it's OK to continue or best to scrap it and try again. | Sydney Blessinger



Hot much beats relaxing with friends and a good cup of hot chocolate with seniors Paige Shevlin and Kate Sarber. | Sydney Blessinger



Ah, Friendsgiving: Seniors Chris Norris and Emily Kriebel fill up on food made by friends for a different type of Thanksgiving celebration. | MaKayla Seifert



Sporting the always fashionable, hard plastic safety goggles, senior Carlie Dierkes kneels down so she can be level with her graduated cylinder, making sure the volume of her reagent is spot on. Getting the correct amount was only a minor first step in the lengthy procedure of crystallization in lidocaine synthesis for Chemistry 341, "Organic Chemistry II." | Bethany Boeglin



IT'S Academic

We'd been doing it all of our lives, longer than we could remember. No matter the level — first grade reading, high school gym or our major's senior seminar — it was school. For some, it was their last bit, and they counted down those courses, papers and projects until freedom arrived. Others had a longer career of higher education ahead of them, and college was just the first step. But no matter how much more we had in store, we were old hats at it. And we also knew what never changed. There was the unspoken rule that, despite being free from the constraints of a seating chart, your first-day seat was your always-seat; to move created chaos and discomfort. Either you made friends with the person next to you or your neighbor was the person who never spoke to you. Every professor asked a question and waited, until one of the same people finally raised a hand. Most tried to block out memories of hours slaving over laptops, of all-nighters, anxiety and last-minute projects. But it was why we were here. What we learned pertained to our passions and what we wanted to spend our lives doing. And every level had its ease because it was academic.

by Mackenzie Bruce

Can't Compare

At any time of the day or night, from residence halls to Ridgway Center, you could hear someone saying, "I don't want to study." But study we did. Whether an art, math or business major, everyone had their own way of studying and method of retaining information.

With four schools and colleges and more than 80 majors, it made sense that students from various fields would study differently. For some, that meant hitting the books and cramming. Reading for hours with a highlighter in hand and memorizing timelines or systems of the body was one way, especially for those in the College of Arts and Sciences.

Biology majors like senior Mackenzie Powell fell into this category. But rather than skimming chapters to review, she did her best to talk out concepts with her study group.

"Once you got up into the higher courses, it was integrating all the stuff you had learned," she said. "So if you hadn't learned a topic yet, but you recognized some of the words, you could break it down."

Science and engineering majors practically lived in Koch Center, but that didn't mean they studied similarly. Many from the College of Engineering and Computer Sciences spent more time with practical experience, working out calculations and using software as opposed to theorizing with books and notecards — and so did the nursing majors. Lab courses for students in the College of Education and Health Sciences often involved writing detailed reports, like care plans.

And while "creative" wouldn't be the first label slapped on a civil engineer, building a bridge required a lot of imagination and understanding of design — skills art students used every day. Senior Michael Mann's hands-on work produced paintings rather than bridges. More often than not, non-majors underestimated the work put into projects, but Mann was always quick to say otherwise.

"If someone said that [art majors had it easy], I'd usually say I spent six hours in the studio," he said. "I didn't have to write a paper this week, but I had a painting due."

Studying simply meant something different for everyone. Even if students felt like they studied 24/7 or didn't need to study at all, every student used a method of studying fit for their specific fields.

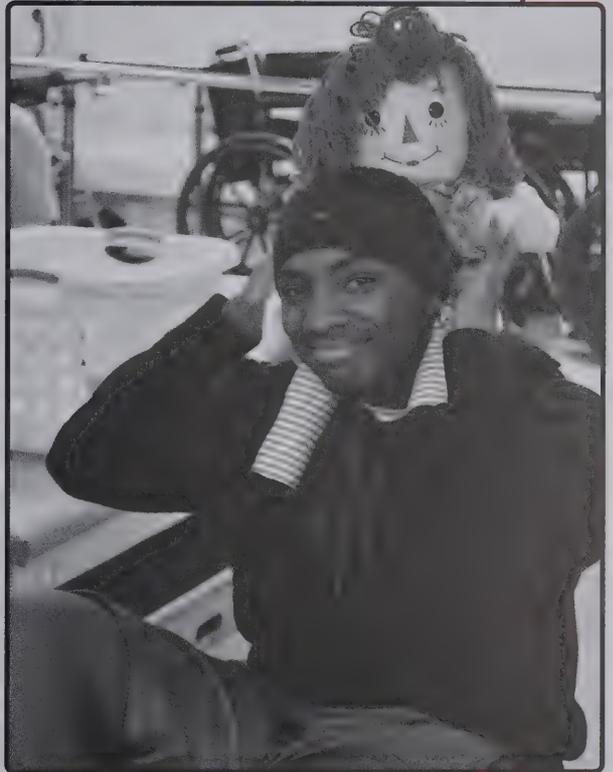
"One of my teammates was a [visual communication design] major," Powell said. "I didn't think you could really compare them because they were such different fields. They were both hard in their own respect."



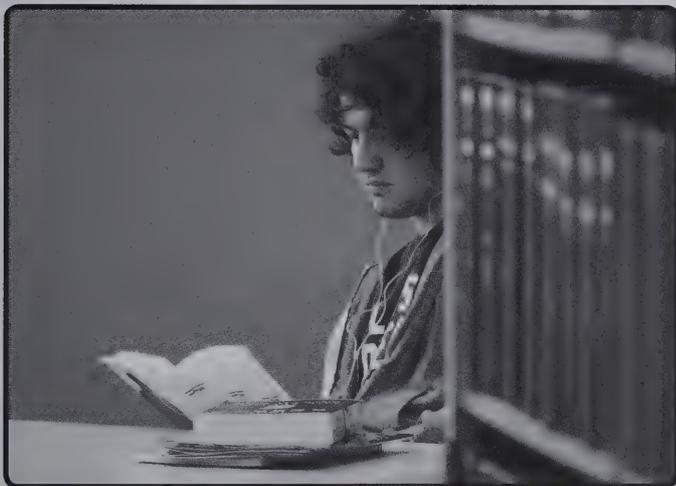


While monitoring the temperature, senior Katie Prosser turns on the vacuum to allow air into the water vapor apparatus in Chemistry 351, "Physical Chemistry." | Amy Parker

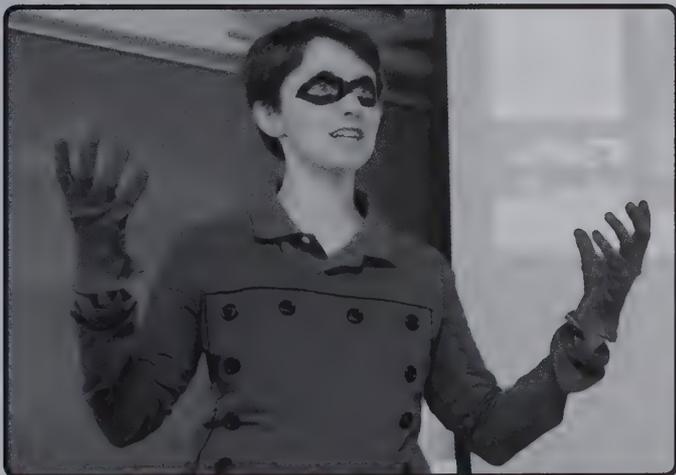
There's humor in art. Junior Brogan Lozano finds something funny as junior Caitlin McCarthy and senior Haley Albers work on their ceramic pots in Art 360, "Ceramics." | Taylor Williams



Hang on tight. Senior Trey Ard gives his doll an impromptu piggyback ride in Physical Therapy 251, "Neurological Rehab Lab." Students used the toy to learn how to hold a baby. | Taylor Williams



All junior Logan Johnson needs are books and the perfect playlist to enjoy a day at Bower-Suhrheinrich Library. | Willian Mallmann



As Bucky Barnes, Captain America's sidekick, senior Maggie Somody explains political propaganda in History 319, "Second World War." | MaKayla Seifert

Leaning in to perfect his brush strokes, senior Michael Mann paints the blue hair of an anime character on glass in Art 340, "Painting." | Amy Parker

To Wesselman's Woods We Go

Battling thorny undergrowth and hordes of mosquitoes was not exactly what the syllabus called for, but in Biology 320, "Evolution and Ecology," it was just another day in class. Lab took students off campus to nearby Wesselman Woods Nature Preserve where students analyzed and compared old and new forests.

While multicolored lecture notes from Cris Hochwender, professor of biology, helped to clarify an abundance of information on plant life, students had less aid outside. They fought the wilderness before being able to recognize and measure various species of trees.

"In class, we talked about leaf identification," junior Katherine Eckert said, "but it's one thing to talk about it and another to actually go out into the woods and try to identify trees."

Students measured trees in old growth forest first, but the secondary growth forest gave them more trouble as it was inhabited by newer species. Hochwender refreshed his students'

memories along the way by calling out various characteristics of trees before they searched the woods.

"You would know a dogwood by its bark," he said about one tree, before spotting another. "You bet your ash we were going to see a lot of those."

The class separated into groups with measuring tapes, notebooks and identification guides to record any tree with a diameter larger than 10 centimeters in a 50-by-4 meter area, which often ran right through tangles of vines and thorns. While the old forest's large trees and worn paths made labor easier than in the new forest, it was all a great deal of work. But sophomore Maggie Lawrence still picked this lab as her favorite because she enjoyed the possibility her data could be important in future research.

"It gave us a real life application of what we were learning in lecture," she said. "In the labs, [Hochwender] really tied it into things you could be doing later in life."



With her handy-dandy binoculars, junior Brooke Russell tries to identify the leaves of tree as junior Katherine Eckert waits close by to classify it with her tree identification chart. | MaKayla Seifert



The answer is in the leaves. Senior Benjamin Waldo tries to spot the right set of foliage in the canopy of branches. | MaKayla Seifert

It's a bird. It's a plane. Nope, wait. What is that? Junior Kane Stratman hopes the binoculars will help to untangle the maze of branches above him. | MaKayla Seifert

Careful to get exact measurements, sophomore Paul Reller gauges the tree's width after hiking off the beaten path. | MaKayla Seifert

Poison ivy is a forest explorer's worst fear, and these woods are full of it. After walking 20 feet into the chosen wooded area, sophomore Elizabeth Mendes realizes she's surrounded and avoids touching the plant while assessing trunk diameters of nearby trees. | Sadie Wacker



Learning three new tenses, seniors Bryan Bennett and Tanna Mabrey practice the hand motions to indicate the time of day. | Kate Sarber

After rehearsing ways to express emotions, seniors Mallory Hapeman, Bobbi Moskoff, Yvonne Ko and Kelsey Toelle enhance their signing. | Kate Sarber

Indicating an action that happened in the past, juniors Madeline V. Smith and Taylor Groves practice the signs as they circle their hands. | Kate Sarber



Being told to act like he just won the lottery and became a millionaire, senior Garrett Johnson "makes it rain" with his imaginary cash. | Kate Sarber



by Joy Grace Chen

Learning with Hand Motions

When the classroom lights flashed on and off, everyone in Education 481, "Basic Sign Language," knew it was time to pay attention. That was how teachers in deaf schools started class, and characteristics of deaf culture were only some of the things students learned in this popular and unconventional course.

Since the course was open to anyone, many seniors from different majors jumped on the chance to take it, especially since word of mouth made it a well sought-after elective.

"It traveled through the grapevine that it was a really good class for seniors to take," senior Bryan Bennett said. "You would not think of an education class being a sign language class."

Students learned the alphabet, numbers and basic vocabulary in sign language. They also gave presentations, choosing a song or a children's book to sign. Because Christine Leaf, adjunct instructor of education, had experience working with the deaf community, she made sure to incorporate aspects of deaf culture. And regardless of their major, students found the information helpful.

"I was going into retail management," senior Tyler Wong said. "Being able to communicate with all types of cultures would be really nice."

The course required students to put in work outside of class, from learning the history of sign language to practicing hand orientations. But everyone still found the course to be more fun than challenging.

Leaf kept the atmosphere light by telling stories or holding review games where students could earn extra credit. The classroom setup was more informal since students sat in a circle in order to see each other sign.

"We did not have a lot of pressure on us," senior Mariah Ferguson said. "We were just having fun and learning like education should be."



Blessed by the "Gods of Shanklin" after touching the theatre's good door handles, seniors Malory Ladd, Mariah Ferguson and Elizabeth Coons use sign language and situations like stealing a car or being caught by the police to express their reactions. | Kate Sarber

Break, Shatter and Pull

With a crack like an extra-large balloon popping in an empty room, a steel rod snapped in half. Students in Mechanical Engineering 330, "Materials Lab," anticipated the loud sound but still flinched when they tested the ultimate strength of the metal. The lab introduced mechanical and civil engineers to testing many aspects, like bendability and hardness, of metals and plastics.

"It was about taking different materials and seeing how they reacted to different situations," junior Caroline Kopff said. "It was interesting to see how the materials worked because sometimes they didn't entirely react the way you expected them to."

One such unexpected reaction happened while compressing redwood blocks. Many students expected the wood to splinter and crack, but every test of the wet and dry wood of all different sizes broke at 45 degree angles.

Students put materials through all kinds of abnormal con-

ditions. In one lab, they compressed a one-foot long, three-fourths inch thick steel rod under so much force that it bent to look like an open parenthesis, something that would never happen normally. Learning about and seeing these types of reactions was important for engineers because it expanded the working knowledge they needed.

"A lot of engineers are more hands-on learners," junior Jessa Ward said. "We didn't like to just sit there and listen. We liked to have our hands on a specimen. If you actually saw something happening, it helped you learn it a lot better."

But with few samples at a time and only one main testing machine, the students usually had plenty of downtime. Whether it was falsely boasting about the ability to snap what could not be broken by hand or chitchatting about summer internships, students found ways to keep themselves entertained between the monotony of whacking specimens with pendulums, testing fracturing and pulling apart steel rods.



With calculated precision, junior Ethan Welch uses an extensometer to steady the polymer rod. Welch hopes that the rod will break in the middle when the machine pulls at each end. | Taylor Williams



Expertly using a caliper, junior Jessa Ward measures a plastic test rod before it is compressed in the machine. | Taylor Williams

Getting his hands greasy just goes with the territory, Senior Nathan Basden sets up a test rod so it can be correctly measured and adjusted. | Taylor Williams

An extensometer's just the thing. Junior Isaac Sullender measures and prepares the polymer rod for stretching. | Sadie Wacker



Third time's a charm. This isn't the only occasion where they had to pry the polymer rod from the grips of the material test system. Junior Zane Wyman watches closely as junior Clay Peacock tries to loosen the rod that broke and is lodged inside of the machine. | Taylor Williams

Perceiving the Smallest Product

If science was as straightforward as driving a car, learning chemistry would have been easier. But in Chemistry 341, "Organic Chemistry," students who studied molecular reactions knew it wasn't so simple. Each complex structure had a specific formula to be memorized and learned.

The course allowed students to look at how molecules connected and interacted with one another. While lecture slides depicted different types of chemical reactions, the majority of the course consisted of predicting how molecules would respond to each other and why they behaved as they did.

"It was understanding that the car goes forward when you press the gas, but it was understanding more of why the car goes when you press the gas," junior Cameron Wickes said.

Students discussed the concepts behind reactions in class, but labs showed the manifestation of how chemicals acted. One exercise required students to connect two different molecules, diene and dienophile, and create a Diels-Alder reaction. In

another experiment, they took a single molecule and, through a series of reactions, added other molecules to produce a more complicated product. To get the response they wanted, certain components had to be added at a specific time and temperature.

The hands-on experience helped students learn and understand better in the long run. Flashcards were often the best way to memorize drawings of complex molecules and condense lecture notes for quick recall. They became the perfect companion for the drawings as they told why the chemicals interacted and connected the way they did.

"Chemistry was not a [subject] you could just regurgitate," Wickes said. "You had to understand what you were saying."

Being able to recognize the processes helped students apply them in lab and the application made understanding the combination of molecules easier. This challenging course taught students how to see chemistry concepts at the smallest level.



It's a delicate process to separate the aqueous layer from this solution to leave behind the organic layer, but junior Rhys Smith manages to complete the recrystallization procedure with relative ease. | Bethany Boeglin



Using a separatory funnel, junior Morgan Harrison divides her solution's aqueous and organic layers for lidocaine synthesis. | Bethany Boeglin

Working through the lab, junior Kane Stratman and sophomore Chanhon Jung analyze their nuclear magnetic resonance spectrum readings | Bethany Boeglin

Before going to the fume hood for her experiment, junior Allie Arguello writes finishing touches for her procedure. | Bethany Boeglin



Two heads are better than one. Splitting the work for their experiment, sophomore Paul Reller and junior Cameron Wickes carefully examine the infrared spectra results from the new IR spectroscopy machine and get through the work quickly. | Bethany Boeglin



Viewing pulmonary reflexes and assessing the ears are a few of the things sophomores Nicole Simmons and Kayla Cantrell do in lab. | Sadie Wacker

It's awkward to inspect a friend's nose, even in pursuit of knowledge. All sophomores Colleen Treesh and Kristen Nussel can do is laugh. | Sadie Wacker

To view mock patients' throats, eyes and ears, sophomores Sarah Vanderhoff and Bailey Butrum prepare the otoscopes for class. | Sadie Wacker



Don't go into the light. Junior Jon Ashby stares at sophomore Nick Whetstine as he studies the pupil reflection in Ashby's eye. | Taylor Williams



by Katelyn Harbert

New Meaning to Hands-on

Being lab partners meant something different in Nursing 264, “Dynamic Integration: Physical Assessment.” Classmates could be found working with — as well as on — each other to broaden their skills. Looking down throats, up noses and in ears, students worked hands-on with equipment and each other while learning to assess health through developmental, cultural and behavioral ways. The lab allowed students to experience many situations that they would need to be aware of in the future.

“That’s where we did all of the fun stuff,” sophomore Sarah Vanderhoff said. “We got to do the assessments on our peers. Doing the hands-on things was better than just sitting in a lecture.”

During labs, students discussed and evaluated mental health, vital signs, respiratory rate and temperature. They took what they learned and applied the practical material on their partners as they checked things like pupil dilation and thyroids. In one lab, sophomore Josh Sellers noticed junior Jon Ashby had a red ear, likely due to an ear infection. These essentials aided in reaching the goals that the course highlighted.

“Sophomore year was the first year that you had clinicals,” Vanderhoff said. “Learning assessments before you went into them were really helpful, especially to be able to know what was normal and what was not normal.”

With the focus on the evaluation of people across a life span, it wasn’t difficult to imagine a great deal of information was made available. Despite teaching essential information to succeed in the course, it also taught something more to each future nurse.

“These were skills that we would absolutely be using our entire career, so having this base was important,” Vanderhoff said. “I thought the entire [course] in general was the best part because being able to learn these things confirmed what I wanted to do in life.”



Close quarters aren't problematic for sophomores Ryan Lane and Tyler Booker. They are able to remain professional while in extremely close proximity of each other as they take turns examining each other's eyes using an otoscope to check pupil reflection. | Taylor Williams

accounting 210



It's business time. Sophomore Tyler Sullivan collects money from junior Josh Jyawook for the houses he bought for his properties. | MaKayla Seifert

With properties all over the board and stacks of money to spare, sophomore Nick Baker excitedly rolls the dice for another turn. | MaKayla Seifert

Moving down the board, freshman Danielle Arnold battles for economic control as sophomore Sam Dowd plans his next move. | Kate Sarber



No calculators here. Freshman Emily Baggett easily counts out change before handing it to freshman Ashley Hammons. | MaKayla Seifert



by Katelyn Harbert

Principles of the Future

Money was the building block of society, and Accounting 210, “Principles of Accounting I,” took basic accounting knowledge and tried to utilize it in life’s everyday situations.

Because of the dollar-intensive material, each class focused on taking extensive notes. The enthusiastic Rania Mousa, assistant professor of accounting, covered the classroom’s multiple white boards with information from budget documentation to money distribution throughout a company to supplement her lectures.

“Basic knowledge of accounting was useful for pretty much anything,” junior Isabella Haws said. “Personally, I wanted to go into human resource management and you had to use all of those resources.”

Students found Mousa illuminating as she taught them the fundamentals, but it was games and interactive lessons that caught their attention, including playing the classic board game, “Monopoly.” Each student was required to complete 15 transactions, and it was a race to the finish as the 75-minute class period flew by.

While students paid rent and taxes and bought buildings and utilities, they realized the real situations that could affect every one of them. The course — and the game — focused on the importance of keeping track of personal finances, as well as the finances for a business or company.

“Accounting was important if you were interested in increasing your wealth and your investments in general,” sophomore Nick Baker said. “If we didn’t account, businesses did not function. If we didn’t know those things, then businesses and companies collapsed.”

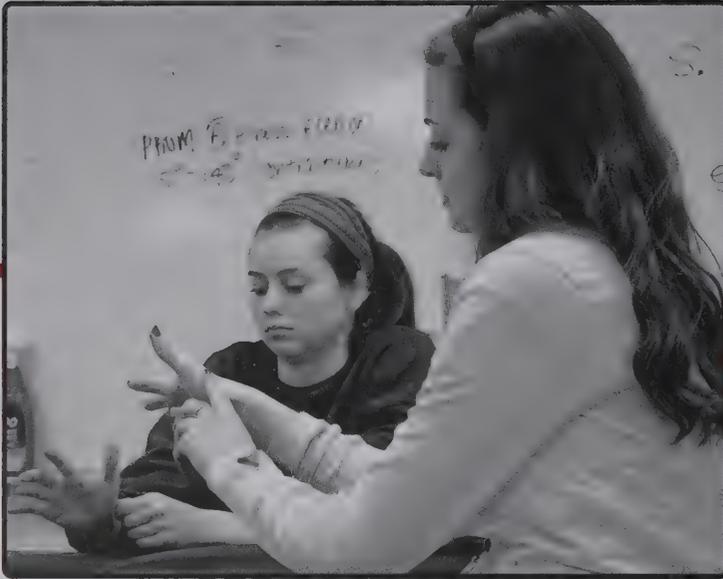
As the semester continued, students grew quick to encourage their fellow peers to take the same course during their time at UE.

“Everyone should have considered taking accounting because it was monumentally important to everyone for making financial decisions,” Haws said.



Who knew an 80-year-old game could help students understand today’s economy? Rich Uncle Pennybags is always present as freshman Joshua Estridge makes a move around the board and sophomore Nick Jagelski waits his turn. | Sadie Wacker

physical therapy 417



While demonstrating the correct movements for everyone to see, seniors Mary Beth Niese and Molly Holthus are stuck in the spotlight. | Willian Mallmann

Testing each others' skills, graduate student Brittany Sheffield tries to determine what is causing senior Jordan Kocher's pain. | Willian Mallmann

Physical therapists are hands-on. Senior Mara Huber and graduate student Mackenzie Mangels check each other's joints and muscles. | Willian Mallmann



After a lecture, senior Adria Mehringer and graduate student Caitlin Harty practice working out their hands and other joints. | Willian Mallmann



by Katelyn Harbert

Prepping for the Real World

Discussions about the musculoskeletal system were just daily conversation for students in Physical Therapy 417, "Tests & Measurements," where PT students learned the body's basic systems.

"It was a course that allowed us to learn how much each joint is supposed to bend and how each is supposed to feel," graduate student Jessica Stoens said.

It was hard work for these future doctors as they jammed in what they needed to learn, and they did their best to grasp topics and commit them to memory. Graduate student Caitlin Harty described the course as a self-learning one, where students were required to do pre-labs and to take quizzes before class to make sure they understood the information.

"[Professors] were throwing a lot of information at us in a short amount of time that I hoped I would retain and use later on," she said.

While it was a requirement of the PT degree to complete a clinical rotation, students had to be prepared for it, and before they could be prepared for it, they had to gain practical experience.

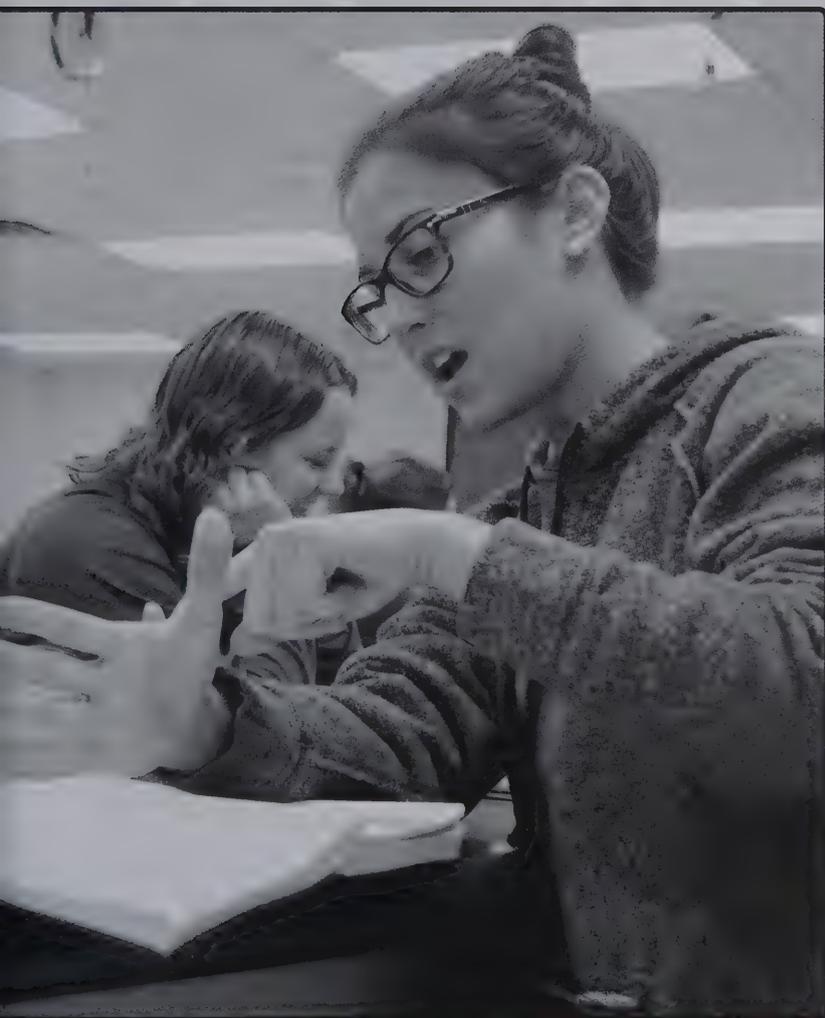
"This was the first course where I felt like I really, really learned something," senior Nicole Ivanovic said.

Practicing helped students expand their knowledge of the human body. They took what they studied and applied it to physical situations, testing muscle strength and joint bending.

"It was the first time that I actually got to have my first goniometer," Ivanovic said. "It was my first 'oh my gosh' moment where PT school was really happening."

Students gained the chance to improve their experiences in the classroom, and this knowledge allowed them to get closer to their future career.

"For PT, you were learning these things for life, not just a weekend," Harty said. "These were things you had to carry out. It was a good way to get experience before we went out in the real world."



Every bone in the body has its own name, including the bones that make up the hands and fingers. Senior Libby Peterson attentively listens as senior Margret Spann points out and explains some of the joint differences and their functions. | Willian Mallmann

Practice makes Permanent

Violins, clarinets and trumpets warming up in discordant noise — these sounds began every Monday and Wednesday evening in the Krannert Hall practice room. What started as dissenting clamor soon melded together into melody as students in Music 120, “University Symphony Orchestra,” tuned their instruments and started rehearsal.

In an ensemble that combined string and wind instruments, students with different musical talents and from a variety of majors got the chance to work with each other on various pieces, ranging from Spanish composer Pablo de Sarasate to Russian composer Igor Stravinsky. But playing together and in tune wasn't as easy as it ultimately sounded.

“Learning to play as an ensemble [was challenging] because you had to be constantly aware of everyone else's parts and how you fit into the total package,” junior Max Engleman said.

“Practice makes perfect” was one of Brian St. John's, director of orchestral activities, favorite sayings, and it became the mot-

to of the ensemble. As a result, students diligently practiced the orchestra pieces outside of weekly rehearsals. St. John's emphasis on scales, tuning and other musical exercises challenged everyone in the ensemble, but whenever practices became frustrating, the conductor broke up the tension with well-timed jokes and anecdotes.

“It was a fun but focused atmosphere,” junior Justine Moore said. “Like, you were not afraid to laugh but you couldn't get too off topic.”

Even though they might laugh at one of the many funny stories St. John told from his conducting past, the musicians knew when to get down to business. Many wanted to become music professionals, and every rhythm challenge and tuning problem they faced prepared them for their future career path.

The orchestra had several performances throughout the year, and, for this dedicated group of musicians, their concerts proved that practice did in fact make perfect.



The loudest in the room, senior Becca Moore's violin is small but mighty. Keeping the melody so everyone else can follow along is a big job, but as first chair Moore handles with ease. | Willian Mallmann



With his fingers in the perfect position, senior Tyler Vest holds his viola at just the right angle to hit every note. | Willian Mallmann

While playing "Dance of The Reed Flutes" by Tchaikovsky, junior Joy Grace Chen and senior Katelyn West pay attention to be in sync. | Willian Mallmann

With one breath, senior Andrew Stathan fills his lungs, fixes his embouchure and plays a run of uninterrupted notes. | Willian Mallmann

They're in the same family, but freshman Calvin Dailey and junior Max Engleman aren't related. Dailey and Engleman sit next to each other in the orchestra and play the bassoon, an instrument closely related to an oboe as both are in the double reed family. | Willian Mallmann

Sifting More than Mud and Dirt

Instead of being just another course on how to build different structures, Civil Engineering 338, "Soil Mechanics & Soil Behavior," taught students about soil and how the quality of it determined if a structure would stand tall or crumble. Aspiring engineers had to understand these environmental aspects in order to build a reliable foundation — the start of any good building.

"It was the base of everything civil engineers did," junior John Rodrick said. "It was the base of bridges, buildings, dams."

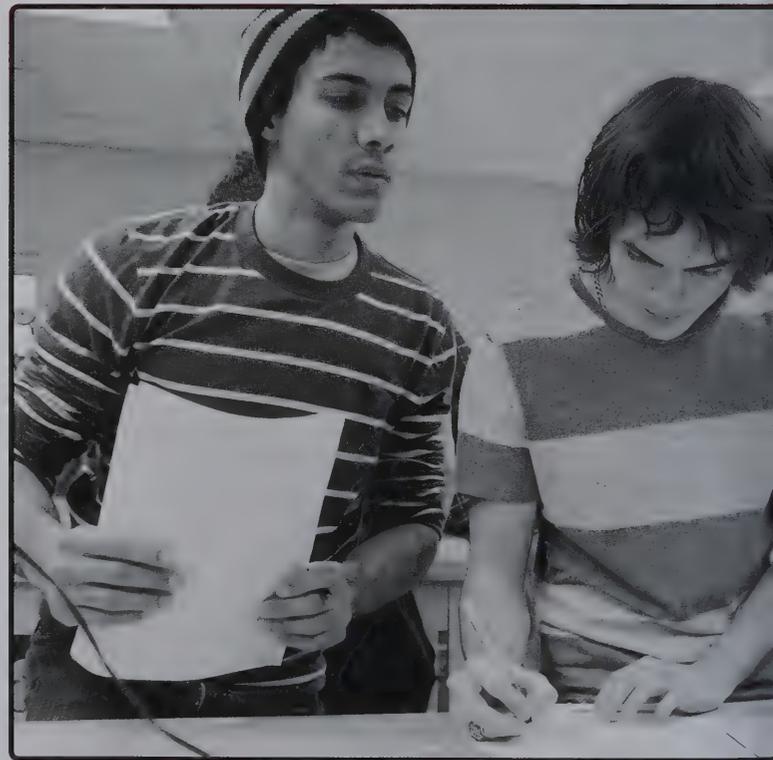
Without the right substance for such support, buildings were at the risk of collapsing. In older houses, cracks meant the foundation had settled or the soil had become too dry and compact. From basic properties to complicated equations, students learned how to prevent this and other things by identifying the differences in gravel, sand, clay and dirt. During lectures, they also learned how to use various equations to categorize soil, and put those tactics into practice during lab.

But instead of going outside each week and playing in the dirt like they had as children, students stayed indoors and played with it in lab in more productive ways. There they separated soils in sieves or evaluated the water content and gravity of the different properties of their samples. Understanding how soil interacted with the weight of water was important in deciphering the type and stability of the soil.

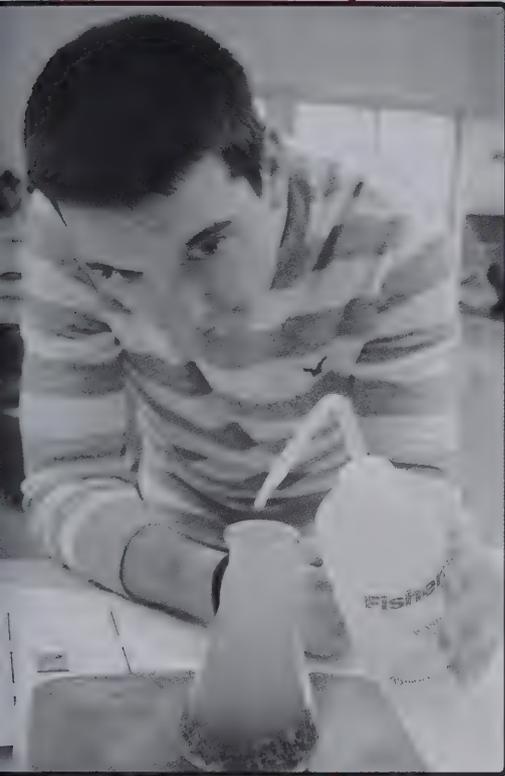
"[Lab] was hands on," Rodrick said. "It was practical. And it helped, especially for the profession I was going into."

Students admitted that the course felt redundant at times, but its practical uses made up for that. The most dedicated found ways to keep their work interesting. For junior Jaelyn Altstadt, that meant looking at the landscapes of homes on Pinterest to expand her knowledge, but it was the course itself that helped her the most.

"It just gave you a broader understanding," she said, "a different light to soil engineering."



As senior Mark Schaefer meticulously records the results, exchange student Vilmar Pereira watches for any change in weight as the team tries to get the most accurate reading on the soil sample. | MaKayla Seifert



Careful not to spill, junior Tyler Kovacs' beaker is filled to the top and almost ready to be weighed. | MaKayla Seifert

Please don't drop the thermometer into the beaker. Junior John Rodrick carefully measures the temperature of the water and soil sample. | MaKayla Seifert

Before getting a wet soil sample, junior Jaclyn Altstadt labels her container so it can be easily identified in the oven. | MaKayla Seifert

The experiment will go horribly wrong if that beaker doesn't get filled to the brim. Junior Aubin Fowler uses a wash bottle to fill the beaker as junior Austin Hoops leans in to carefully observe as the weight on the scale fluctuates. | MaKayla Seifert

computer science 350



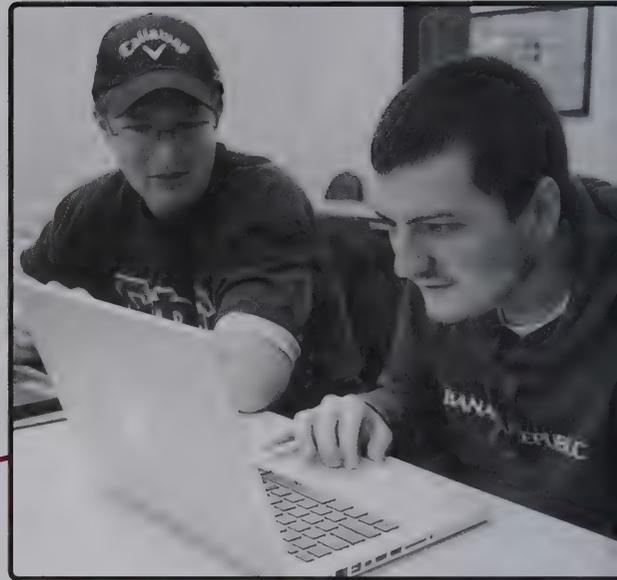
Some lectures put people to sleep. In order to keep that from happening, junior Lily Mast quickly takes notes as the professor speaks. | Amy Parker

Reviewing their work, senior Mike McManus and junior Zack Peay decide which photos they will use to update a website. | MaKayla Seifert

Discussing ways to design and modify their new project, seniors Jawad AlDhaldmi and Rick Young work together to find the best solution. | Kate Sarber



Working on a summary paper for her group's project, senior Alyssa Matthews figures out how to format their Google document. | Kate Sarber



by Mackenzie Bruce

Scripting Gets a New Meaning

You'd expect to learn how to code programs and build interfaces in a computer science course — not how to create characters and write stories. But for Computer Science 350, "Computer/Human Interaction," students did both, incorporating their technological knowledge with their imagination to build a blog for fictional users.

The beginning of the course focused on interviewing tactics to keep communication open between average users and programmers. But since users were imaginary, stories had to be made up. Invented details helped students see what problems might arise, and they tested these glitches through sketches.

"The idea about sketches was that you could create a lot of them in a short amount of time," junior Lily Mast said. "You could sketch all the lofty ideas and narrow it down from there."

Designs served as prototypes before groups coded systems and were tested by potential users. Students from other groups in the course acted as users and then pretended to click through the page. If they didn't know where to click next, the page wasn't intuitive enough and designers went back to the drawing board.

Mast and her group conceived a travel writer named Louisa who needed to submit articles from faraway places in a timely manner, and junior Zack Peay's group took a similar path to the Elizabethan era — Shakespeare became a blogger who interacted with his present-day readers. Both groups gave bloggers a space where they could easily communicate with readers.

After a semester of testing, designing and inventing interfaces and their users, students had a wealth of knowledge and creative tactics to generate functional blogs. And to top it off, the project was fun.

"I liked the usage scenarios because I just got to write a story," Mast said. "Oh, Louisa was in Budapest this week, she wrote her article and sent it off."



Sometimes the best way to figure out if something works is through trial and error. In this new version of Patchwork Central's website, junior Victor Forato and senior Cody Baker go through their code and look for bugs to figure out why the page isn't working. | MaKayla Seifert

No Limit to Your Imagination

Working with the fluid, sticky goo of paper mache, avoiding getting stabbed by wire-mesh and wood splinters and forming aerated concrete and heated Plexiglass into the perfect shape, students in Art 370, "Sculpture," did many amazing things with many materials.

For their major projects, students had to create pieces based either on abstract ideas from something that was in, on or around water or a mask representing their alter ego. They were given the opportunity to make anything using anything.

"It was cool to have the chance to do whatever we wanted," junior Patilyn Lowery said. "But it was also weird as a student to go from, 'You have to do this, this and this,' to 'Here's some material. Make something.' It was freeing, but it was also terrifying because everything was on us and we had to come up with the idea."

Most first-level art courses tended to be structured and focused on building students' knowledge of the medium. But

Amy Musia, adjunct instructor of art, had a looser approach. She encouraged students to mix whatever they could and wanted them to work together to make their pieces. Students didn't always know if a material would work for their idea, but if it didn't work, it became something else. Their designs changed as they experienced different results.

"It was actually kind of fun to have that new experience because we were all working together to make sure that everyone's projects turned out to be something worthwhile," Lowery said.

If they wanted, students could take Plexiglass and make it look like a mermaid tail, creating a natural feel with a more ridged line. Or they could mix fabric with Styrofoam and paint, so long as it followed the project's prompt.

"With sculpture, you were taking a bunch of stuff at times and doing something with it," Lowery said. "It was more the conceptual figuring out the material that you wanted to use."



Listening to music helps the creator create. Junior Cassidy Parkison paints on multiple layers of Mod Podge, a decoupage medium. She lets each piece dry before wrapping her creation in thin strips of cloth to give it texture. | Kate Sarber.



Tracing her guide lines, sophomore Becky Eimer marks measurements before she begins cutting out pieces for her sculpture. | Kate Sarber

Splish, splash, sculpting a bath. Freshman Jessica Pemberton coats her sculpture before attaching another leg to complete this rub-a-dub tub. | Kate Sarber

Shaving the wood, sophomore Tucker Steinlage saws out strips before clamping them together to make the skeleton. | Kate Sarber

Paint and paper everywhere, and not a scrap to spare. While junior Patilyn Lowery uses wire-mesh as the base for her sculpture, she also layers it with a bunch of other things, including newspaper, paint and white cloth, to complete the project. | Kate Sarber



With guard Mislav Brzoja watching from down court and despite the gallant efforts from Wright State guard Justin Mitchell and forward JT. Yoho, guard DJ. Balentine is just too much for his defenders to handle as he skyrockets past the duo and puts up another basket in the Aces' 86-78 win. Guard Blake Simmons watches beneath the basket to make sure the ball drops. | MaKayla Seifert

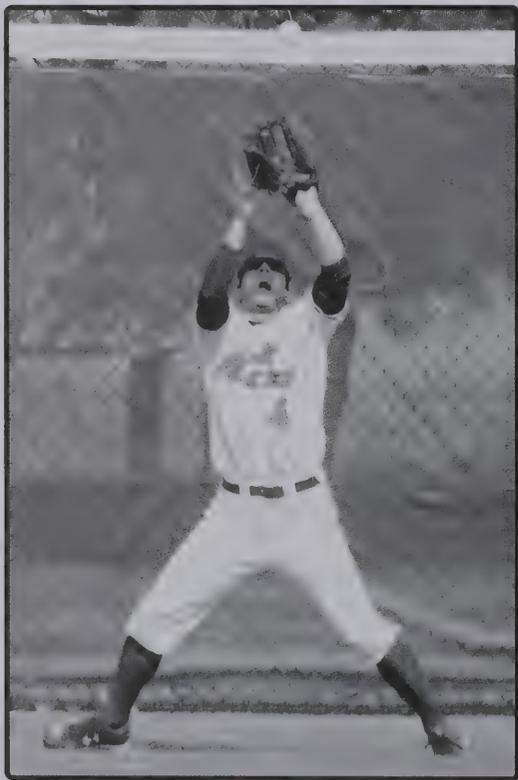


IT'S Sports

Day in and day out we all struggled. For many it was over something small — finishing a project, confessing to a crush, remembering to eat. Some of us experienced these problems, but for those of us who were student-athletes, it was just the beginning of our worries. We had classes sandwiched between hours of practice, projects planned around game nights, midterms and finals competing with MVC Tournaments. While others were worried about the form of our papers, we worried about the form of our shots, our strides and our swings. College life was spent sweating and straining; we sweated and strained in an additional way. Sometimes fans were sparse, but we still pushed forward. Sometimes we didn't perform the way we wanted, but those on the sidelines still cheered for us. For us, it wasn't just about facing the competition, it was about doing what we loved, what we had worked so hard at doing. Yes, as student-athletes we were students first and athletes second, and maybe none of it would matter after we graduated, but while we were here, it mattered more than anything. Maybe it was just sports to some, but to us, it was a passion.

The Hits Just Kept on Coming

by Millie Harlow



Even the sun couldn't stop centerfielder Kevin Kaczmarek. After momentarily losing the ball, he sets himself and robs the hitter to make the catch. | MaKayla Seifert

After finishing as regular season champs last year, this was a disappointing season for the Aces as they finished sixth in the MVC. While injuries plagued the team and other players tried to step up to get the job done, the result was still a 29–24 record, 8–13 in the MVC.

"There were a lot of ups and downs," leftfielder Josh Jyawook said. "That is the game of baseball. Our record was not reflective of what we could be, but you had to put every bat behind you and know that you would get another. You couldn't dwell on the past."

Hitting was not a problem for centerfielder Kevin Kaczmarek. Everyone marveled at his standout season. He led all NCAA Division I players in batting average (.465) and triples (nine). He was also second in the nation in on-base percentage (.543) and slugging percentage (.746), and fifth in runs batted in per game (1.24). Kaczmarek also led the Aces in most categories — batting average, hits (86), doubles (19), triples, home runs (five), runs batted in (57), total bases (138), slugging percentage, on-base percentage, stolen bases (13) and fielding percentage (1.000). He even put together a career-high 22 game hitting-streak and only went hitless in five of UE's 43 games.

Accolades for Kaczmarek started before the season ended. He was named the MVC's Player of the Year, a first for UE's baseball program. He was also named to the all-MVC first team and all-MVC defensive team.

"It was humbling for all of us to see a guy like that work his tail off and get the recognition he deserved," Jyawook said. "It was also good for the underclassmen to see that so they could be inspired and do better."

Kaczmarek was also chosen as a Louisville Slugger D-I first team All-American, one of only 17 players in the country selected. He was also named a Collegiate Baseball Writers Association All-American and was also selected for the ABCA/Rawlings all-Midwest region team. Additionally, he was named a Baseball America second team All-American, a D1 Baseball second team All-American and an ABCA/Rawlings second team All-American.

Kaczmarek was also only one of four players to be named to the Senior CLASS Award first-team, an honor that focused on athletics, academics and community involvement.

"It was cool what it stood for," he said. "It was not just about the stuff on the field, not just baseball, but the student aspect as well."

He was also the recipient of UE's William V. Slyker Award as the top male student-athlete and named to the MVC scholar-athlete first team.

Everything came together for Kaczmarek when the New York Mets tapped him in the ninth round — the 269th overall pick — in the first-year player draft of Major League Baseball.

"It was exciting to think about," he said. "It would be a new chapter in life, and exciting to keep playing the game."

Another highlight was UE's taking two wins over Indiana. Jyawook had his own spotlight moment when his over-the-wall catch during the first game with IU turned out to be a top play on ESPN's "Sportcenter."

"When it happened, I didn't think it would blow up the way it did," he said. "You always see the Major League guys on TV — I never thought I'd see myself, but it was cool to see it."

Postseason honors also went to pitcher Brodie Harkness, who received all-MVC honorable mention, and pitcher Ryan Billo and third baseman Jonathan Ramon, who were named honorable mention scholar-athletes.



Acknowledging another run, short-stop Shain Showers and designated hitter Max Foley celebrate at home plate. | Willian Mallmann

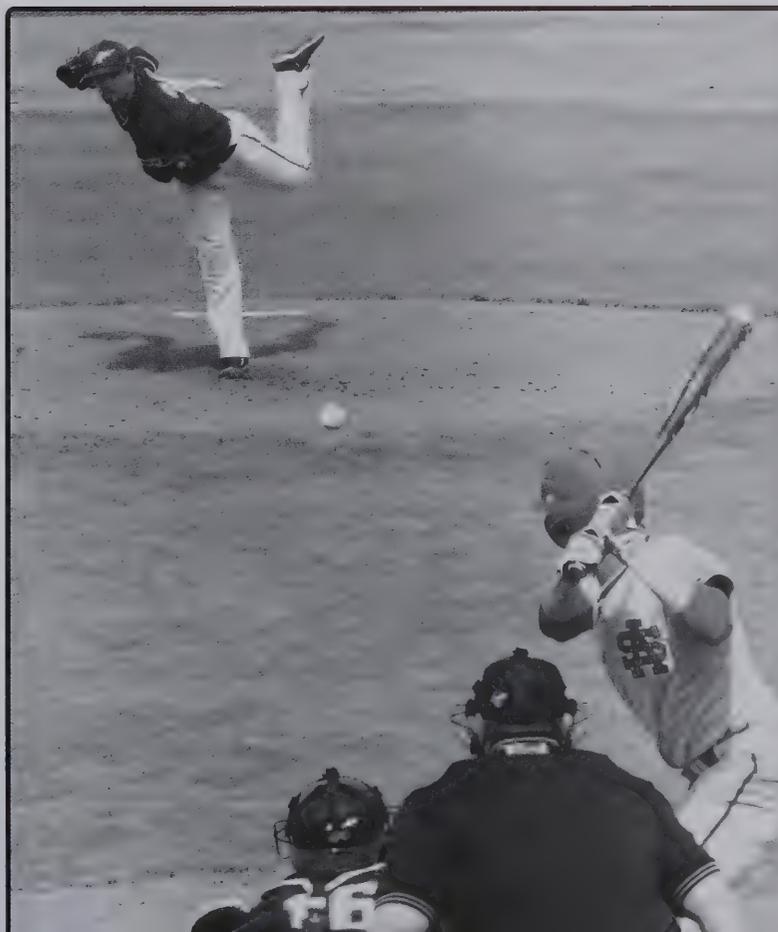
The stretch lands second baseman Tyler Sullivan back on base before Indiana first baseman Brian Wilhite can tag him out. | Sadie Wacker

Catcher Travis Tokarek sets the target for pitcher Brodie Harkness, who fires one to South Alabama first baseman Daniel Martinez behind the watchful eye of umpire Matt Cunningham. | Willian Mallmann

"It was humbling for all of us to see a guy like that work his tail off and get the recognition he deserved." —Josh Jyavork



Having been hit by 49 wild pitches, a program record, rightfielder Jarod Perry gets hit again as he takes another one for the team. | Kate Sarber



More Than Just a Smile

Movies often depicted them as snobby airheads, stuck-up girls who only needed to know how to rhythmically shake their pompoms. In reality, it took determination, dedication and athleticism to be a member of the cheer or dance team. Performing stunts, nailing acrobatics and maintaining a high energy level were not only required but necessary. And the 12 cheerleaders and 9 dancers knew this, which was why they spent so much time trying to perfect all aspects of their sports.

"It was not all about cheering and yelling," junior Paige Durphey said. "We had more of a role than most people thought we did."

While both teams did more than just perform at games, it did take up a lot of their time. They also practiced and worked out together several times a week, attended every home basketball game, traveled to the MVC Tournaments and, in the fall, supported men's soccer.

Arriving at Ford Center two hours before tip-off, the squads were also the meet-and-greet team. They interacted with fans, had their pictures taken with children and tried to get the crowd ready to cheer on the Aces.

"I think we uplifted the spirit of the stadium," sophomore Victoria Salsman said. "And our job was to pump up the crowd and get them excited. We tried to act as a positive influence."

The squads kept that spirit going throughout each

game, with time-outs and halftime being their times to shine. The dancers always did a routine during halftime, and the cheerleaders tumbled and did stunts during time-outs. They were active just like the players they supported, and no matter what happened on the court, they kept smiling and continued to root on the Aces.

"We tried to keep the energy up," senior Taylor Wahlgren said. "That was one of the biggest things we focused on. We tried to get the crowd involved, and of course, we tried to keep the [players] motivated."

They also had to keep themselves upbeat, as both teams dealt with injuries. The cheer team's flips and tricks and the dance team's moves strained bodies, and some members suffered injuries that sidelined them for days, weeks, even the season.

"It really affected us when people got pulled off the team at the last minute," freshman Alexandra Vest said. "We had to re-adjust and just roll with the punches."

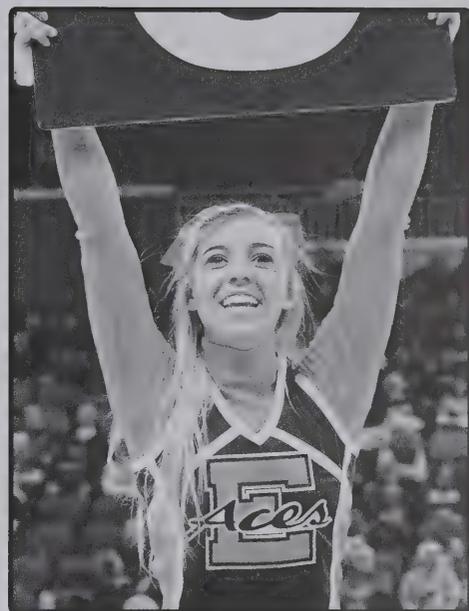
Passion was what laid the foundation for the determination, dedication and athleticism each member of the cheer and dance teams possessed. They used their passion as a way to support UE and the Aces, and theirs was a sport that gave in a way the others did not.

"Cheer and dance both — we worked pretty hard," Wahlgren said. "We were there, we were dedicated, we practiced and we were at every game."





"It was not all about cheering and yelling. We had more of a role than most people thought we did." —Paige Durphey



A-C-E-S. Loud and proud, sophomore Celcia Goedde encourages fans to cheer along as she gets the crowd into the UE chant. | Bethany Boeglin



Relying on their teammates for support, seniors Taylor Wahlgren and Kiley Wilson keep junior Paige Durphey balanced. | Kate Sarber

It's the smile that captivates fans as sophomore Victoria Salsman dances at halftime. | Kate Sarber

Shaking their pompoms, sophomore Rue Reynolds, graduate student Kyleigh Lewis and senior Maggie Gahagen step in perfect sync to Lady Gaga's "Applause." | MaKayla Seifert

During a quick time-out, seniors Madison Hendricks and Mallory Mooney give a cheer. | Kate Sarber

An Uphill Battle of a Season

by Katelyn Harbert



Keeping a steady pace, sophomore Anna Loef and junior Sophia Etienne push past unaffiliated runner Paige Oboikovitz. | MaKayla Seifert

Not only is it a great day for running, but also a great day for turning on the speed. With the end in sight, Rose-Hulman senior Stuart West pushes past senior Josh Genet, who sets a season-best time. | MaKayla Seifert

Through grueling workouts and tough mental preparations, the cross-country teams always trained hard. With only seven senior runners between both teams, it was imperative that they set an example for the others to follow. And while their competitive spirit might have been emulated, it wasn't a good season for the teams overall.

Seniors Kirsten Perrey, Alyssa Moran and Josh Genet paced the way for their squads, but there were really no team highlights to the season, which resulted in the Aces finishing at the bottom — or near the bottom — of most of the races they competed in. While personal bests were recorded by most runners, injuries were an issue, especially to the men's team, with some runners suffering season-ending injuries.

"For the most part, our top seven to 10 [women] stayed mostly healthy," Moran said. "There were a few minor injuries but nothing major."

The men were not quite as fortunate, with a few runners not being able to compete in one or more races. Genet was hit particularly hard with an injury to his leg, but he was able to maintain his standing as one of the top runners in program history even though it was not a stellar season for him.

Conditions also always challenged the runners. With days of scorching heat and temperatures well below freezing, the runners were often pushed to the limit.

"The first two races were rough," Moran said. "The heat index was over 100 so those were really hard races on all of us."

The women did not finish well as a team, but there were some personal accomplishments. Their strongest race was at the UE Invitational, where they placed first in the six-team field.

Perrey finished third of 58 runners and surpassed her personal-best 5K time. Junior Laurel Wolfe finished fourth. Her run in the Greater Louisville Classic bested her previous top time, which was set at last year's UE Invitational. She placed 22nd of 352 participants.

Moran's best finish came at the Eastern Illinois Invitational where she placed 18th in the 132-runner field, her best performance in almost two years.

The men struggled all season and finished last in three of their five meets. Genet had only one top 10 finish when he placed sixth of 53 runners at the UE Invitational. He also finished 12th of 131 at the Eastern Illinois Invitational. After finishing 18th at last year's MVC Championships, Genet fell to 56th this year, although he was the top UE runner.

Both teams finished last at the championships, with Wolfe finishing first for the Aces in 50th place. Perrey ran the top 6K time of her career at the NCAA Great Lakes Regional.

While a number of runners set personal-best records this season, it was clearly a tough one for both squads.

"For most of us racing was as much personal as it was running for the team," Moran said.



Feet from the finish line with a trail of runners following close behind, sophomore Katie Beaber digs deep and pushes through the last of the 5K race. | MaKayla Seifert

"For most of us racing was as much personal as it was running for the team." —Alyssa Moran



Staying stride for stride, junior Laurel Wolfe, Vincennes sophomore TaPring Goatee and senior Kirsten Perrey finish within seconds of each other to take second through fourth place. | MaKayla Seifert



It's a perfect day for sophomore Ben Woolems who sets a new personal-best time. | MaKayla Seifert

It's all about precision. Gently tapping the ball, sophomore Brett Wolvert's putt is perfection. While the weather was a tad chilly, Wolvert shot a 77 to defeat his USI opponent. | MaKayla Seifert

On a brisk spring morning, sophomores Maggie Camp and Kayla Katterhenry and senior Kelly Lamarche practice their swings. | Kate Sarber



It was nice to surprise people when we could score well and give everybody something to talk about. —Cathy Doyle



Taking plenty of time as he contemplates his putt, junior Will Knights helps his team to a win over USI, finishing the day with a round of 77. | MaKayla Seifert





As any collegiate golfer would tell you, the trickiest part of the sport — other than the weather — was scoring well and doing it as a team. Although golfers always tried to shoot the lowest individual score, the collective determined the winner, and players from both the men's and women's teams showed determination as they tried to make this happen on their way to their MVC Championships.

"If we all just came together at conference and everyone had a good day we could get a good number," sophomore Kayla Katterhenry said. "It was hard to have everyone have a good day on the same day."

This proved true throughout the fall and spring seasons. Overall scores weren't as low as the men would have liked, but junior Will Knights, sophomore Wil Pahud and freshman Tyler Gray led the team. All three helped UE to a second-place finish at the Butler Invitational, with Pahud finishing fourth and Gray and Knights following in seventh and ninth.

"There was always the individual, we were all competitive," Pahud said. "We wanted to win, but as a team we all knew we had a lot more talent than we showed. It would have surprised a lot of people in the conference if we had played to that potential."

This motivation pushed the men and they achieved one of the best MVC Championship finishes they had had since the 2002 season. The team's strong efforts during all three rounds led to a fourth-place tie with Bradley. Pahud finished tied for 10th, while junior Rick Voyvodic tied for 13th and Gray tied for 16th.

On the women's side, Katterhenry was outstanding. While her best finish in the fall was fifth at the Saluki Shootout, spring was truly her season. She finished fourth at the Benbow Invitational and won her third career-event in a five-hole playoff at the Nichols Intercollegiate.

"That was one tournament I felt like I earned it," she said. "I was trying not to worry what [my opponent] was doing so much and get the best score I could on each hole."

Katterhenry also hit a hole-in-one on her way to tying for second at the Samford Intercollegiate. She tied for fifth at the Bradley Invitational and the Indiana State Spring Invite.

Senior Cathy Doyle also performed well. She finished fourth at the Bradley Invitational and jumped 20 spots at the Indiana State meet to finish 22nd after starting in 47th.

While the women finished eighth at the MVC Championship, with Katterhenry tying for 18th and Doyle tying for 23rd, the Aces were fourth after the first day.

"It was always nice to surprise people when we could score well and give everybody something to talk about," Doyle said.

Postseason honors went to Katterhenry, who was named to the all-conference team for the second time and to the scholar-athlete first team.

Facing the Tough Goal Together

by Mackenzie Bruce



Looking for dips and ridges on the green, freshman Giulia Mallmann also eyes the hole as she tries to find the perfect angle for her putt. | Kate Sarber

by Mackenzie Bruce

Fighting to Finish **Strong**

Excited fans watched as the clock ticked down in the championship game of the Collegen Insider.com Tournament. With nine seconds remaining, guard DJ. Balentine tossed the ball halfway across court to center Egidijus Mockevicius. The dunk by the 6-foot-10-inch center made fans go wild and put an end to the game, where UE for the first time in the NCAA Division I era won a postseason championship.

"Everyone was so excited," Balentine said. "Before the game you could just tell — a lot of people were waiting outside the stadium and in the stands during warm-ups. You could feel the championship game. We knew it was going to be big."

After falling 71–67 to Illinois State in the first round of the MVC Tournament, the Aces were invited to play in the CIT for the fifth time in seven years. They beat IP-Fort Wayne, Eastern Illinois, Louisiana and UT-Martin to advance to the final round, and while there was nothing easy about any of the games, the away game against Louisiana was a tough physical test.

"We knew they were a really good team," forward Blake Simmons said, "but our mindset was playing our hardest, playing our best, and hoping the outcome came out on our side."

With a loud and vibrant home base cheering on the Ragin' Cajuns, the atmosphere excited both teams and kept the score close. Forward Jaylon Moore had the best half of his career, scoring 10 points and grabbing three rebounds. And while Louisiana pushed back in the second half, guard Adam Wing kept connecting with the basket, moving into double figures in the

final two minutes of the game as UE earned the 89–82 victory.

The semifinal pitted the Aces against UT-Martin, where Balentine was again the team's top scorer and Wing had one of his best games of the season. Simmons also helped led the Aces in the 79–66 defeat of the Skyhawks with seven assists.

Then Northern Arizona and the Aces met at Ford Center for the championship game. Up by eight at the half, the intensity soared as the second half began and both teams battled for the upper hand. The Lumberjacks took the lead a number of times but with a little more than a minute remaining in the game, the Aces sunk a number of free throws before Mockevicius' dunk finished the game and gave UE the 71–65 win.

Despite ups and downs during the regular season, UE had some memorable wins, including an 81–69 overtime win over Ohio and the 52–49 win over Northern Iowa, ranked 23rd at the time. It proved to be one of the biggest wins of the season.

"We knew coming in the team we were about to go against was one of the best teams in the country," Simmons said. "We just came together as a team and kept battling and battling."

UE ended the season 24–12, 9–9 in MVC play. Postseason honors went to Balentine and Mockevicius, who were named to the all-MVC first team. Mockevicius also earned a spot on all-MVC defensive team, and guard Mislav Brzoja was named to all-MVC bench team. Balentine was also named CIT MVP and Mockevicius and Wing earned spots on the all-CIT team. Simmons was named to the all-MVC scholar-athlete first team.





Keeping his eyes on the basket, guard Mislav Brzoja leaps past Wichita State guard Evan Wessel as forward Darius Carter looks for the defensive play. | Kate Sarber

Wright State forward Steven Davis can't match center Egidijus Mockevicius, and guard Adam Wing and Wright State forward J.T. Yoho and guard Joe Thomasson can only watch as the dunk goes in for two. | MaKayla Seifert

"Before the game you could just tell, you could feel the championship game. We knew it was going to be big." —D.J. Balentine



Determination is what guard Adam Wing shows Southern Illinois guards Dawson Verhines and Armon Fletcher as they try to strip the ball away. | Taylor Williams

After bringing the ball up court, guard Blake Simmons finds a clear path and makes his way around Illinois State guard DeVaughn Akoon-Purcell. | MaKayla Seifert

Always the target as he plays against unrelenting defenses, guard D.J. Balentine shoots past Bradley forwards Auston Barnes and Josh Cunningham. | Kate Sarber



Loud and proud of it. Getting a little cheer crazy are freshmen Maria Lozano and Melissa Mihovich. | Kate Sarber



Say what? Sophomores Nick Baker, Carl Minnette and Mark Murillo and junior Michael Armstrong don't like the call at the men's basketball game against Wichita State. | MaKayla Seifert



Bike Race weekend finds junior Ashley Torres, senior Kirsten Perrey and junior Laurel Wolfe cheering for the tennis team. | MaKayla Seifert

"Again!" Freshmen Connor Micklo, Giulia Mallmann and Courtney Coverdale express their pleasure as the volleyball team makes another successful spike against Point Central. | Bethany Boeglin



"Everyone was very engaged. We stood up and cheered them on. We wanted them to do their best." —Devyn McQueen

As the scoreboard counted down the final seconds of any game, students jumped out of their seats to give their last shouts of encouragement. When the time finally ran out, no matter the sport, fans let loose — win, lose or tie — in support of their Aces.

Many had personal reasons for attending sporting events, whether it was to cheer on the team, encourage friends, support a boyfriend or girlfriend or simply because they loved the sport. Regardless, they found themselves caught up in the fever that the sport and healthy competition brought. Going to different sporting events simply gave students a chance to see campus life from a different perspective.

“I thought it was a great way to be involved in the university community without all the time commitment,” senior Devyn McQueen said.

Many fans were friends of UE's more than 220 student-athletes and wanted to show their support. Even those busy with classes, organizations and jobs often made time to cheer on the Aces and take a break from the everyday routine of school. Sports didn't have to do with majors or homework. They were a chance to cheer and show some school spirit.

Men's soccer was a perfect example. If you were going to be louder than the Hard Aces, then you'd better bring an army with you to McCutchan Stadium. Armed with distractions, noisemakers and louder-than-normal voices, this vibrant group cheered from behind the south goal.

Senior Paul Klein even made sure he brought a trash can lid with him to games, and he occasionally donned an odd costume, like a banana suit, to distract the opposing team.

“[Being a fan was] just about how loud, how vocal you were and about how passionate you were,” he said.

The point was not to outwardly insult anyone, but to have fun and show support for the Aces. Members even went on Twitter to search for funny posts to shout at the opposing goalkeeper, all in the hopes of throwing him off his game.

Men's basketball had a tougher time getting an abundance of fans to Ford Center — except when there was a postseason championship on the line — but those who did attend were a dedicated group. Lining an area just for students, lots of Greeks and other fans from a surprising source — theatre — showed their love of the game.

“Everyone was very engaged,” McQueen said. “When the time was almost up, we stood up and cheered them on. We wanted them to do their best.”

While some painted their faces, others carried posters of players' faces and dressed in purple and orange. But no matter the sport, there was always someone cheering on the student-athletes as they fought for UE pride.

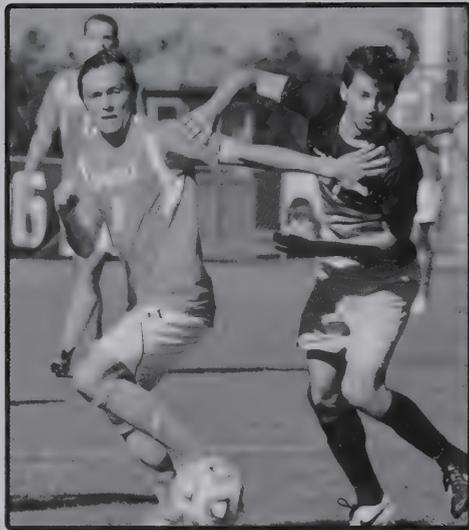
“The Aces made the games enjoyable,” junior Hannah Cava said. “They looked really excited so you were really excited.”

For the **Love** of the Game

by Brittany McFadden



As if trash-talking isn't enough, freshman Trenton McCorkle and seniors Matt Brown and Logan Guffey find it necessary to heckle an Indiana player who misses a goal. | MaKayla Seifert



Intercepting a pass, forward Dylan Terry fights to keep the ball away from Lipscomb midfielder Shpend Rexhepi. | Kate Sarber



Can't stop. Won't stop. Midfielder Faik Hajderovic heads for the goal with Cincinnati midfielders Christian Hay and Terence Carter trailing behind. | MaKayla Seifert

In a leap of faith, goalkeeper Eric Teppen artfully prevents Marshall forward Scott Doney from scoring with assistance from defenders Patrick Hodges and Ian McGrath and midfielders Vince DiPrimio and Landon Souder. | Taylor Williams

Applying some fancy footwork, forward Charlie Macias passes the ball to a teammate before Cincinnati defender Vebjorn Krovel can get to him. | Kate Sarber



“It was a great experience playing the top teams in the country and seeing where we compared to them.” —Eric Teppen



The goal every season was the same — excel in MVC play and advance in the conference tournament. But a handful of blips at the start of the season kept the Aces from doing well in nonconference games, and a schedule full of top competitors didn't make the season any easier.

After exhibition play, the men competed in the Portland Invitational. Though both contests went winless — a 3-1 loss to Oregon State and a tie with Portland — games like these gave the Aces the chance to sync as a team.

"It was a great experience playing the top teams in the country and seeing where we compared to them talent-wise," goalkeeper Eric Teppen said.

Finishing 2-5-1 in nonconference play, the start to the MVC season ended in a loss to SIU-Edwardsville. The Cougars out-shot the Aces, although Teppen stopped six goals — not long after setting the all-time UE saves record with 249.

Decisive wins over Central Arkansas, Bradley, Drake and Loyola followed and pushed the men forward. Goals by midfielders Mark Anthony Gonzalez and Ian McGrath gave the Aces their first win over the Braves for the first time in six years, while the 4-1 win over Drake ended a 13-year losing streak to the Bulldogs.

But losses to Kentucky, Louisville and Indiana mixed in with the wins as these top-ranked teams dominated the Aces.

"Each game we were able to reevaluate our mistakes and really focus on those mistakes the following game and make sure they didn't happen again," Teppen said.

A close overtime battle found the regular-season title going to Missouri State after the Bears scored the game's only goal in the 94th minute in a back and forth contest of missed shots and dramatic saves.

Another challenge came soon after MVC play began when coach Mike Jacobs announced that he had accepted a position with United Soccer Leagues and would leave UE at the end of the season.

"He was definitely still there and cared about us more than anything," forward Dylan Terry said. "We kind of wanted to play for him and do what we could to win for him."

While some games were better than others, in the quarter-finals of the MVC Tournament the No. 6 seed, Bradley, came up with the upset win over the No. 3 seeded Aces.

UE finished the season 6-11-1, 4-2 in the MVC. Postseason honors went to Gonzalez, midfielder Faik Hajderovic and defender Patrick Hodges, who were named to the all-MVC first team. Forward Charlie Macias, and midfielder Luis Romero were selected to the all-MVC second team.

Terry received honorable mention and McGrath was named to the all-freshmen team. Macias, forward Nick Schroeder and defender Kevin Schafer were named to the scholar-athlete first team. UE also received the MVC Fair Play Award.

Fighting for the Elusive Goal

by Mackenzie Bruce



For kicks, midfielder Faik Hajderovic watches defender Patrick Hodges steal the ball from Marshall defender Cory Shimensky. | Taylor Williams

A Swing and Lots of Misses

by Mackenzie Bruce



Only the shadow knows. Home plate umpire Dan Rogers watches as pitcher Samantha Fleming fires one to Illinois State second baseman Abby Turczyn in the second game of the doubleheader. | Willian Mallmann

Finishing up the season with a loss was never how a team wanted to go out. But after a year of very few wins and far too many losses, it was almost expected. The softball team fought for even the smallest of victories, but with a brand-new coaching staff and plenty of challenges to face on the field, wins were hard to come by.

"In the beginning, it was kind of tough because we weren't playing to our potential," centerfield Courtney Land said. "Our games [at the end of the season] had been a lot closer, so we were showing some fight."

The Aces spent the first half of the season at nonconference tournaments and didn't win more than one game at any of the five tournaments until they won two during the Oklahoma State Tournament in March.

A spark caught later in the season when the team took two from Austin Peay in a doubleheader. In game one, the Aces took the lead in the second when Land batted in two. After third baseman Chandra Parr homered in the third and designated hitter Danielle Freeman did so in the fourth, the Aces never looked back. They ended the game with four home runs, with rightfielder Abbi Fahse and first baseman Morgan Lambert also knocking in a pair in the sixth. Winning 15–8, it was the most runs UE would score in a game.

"We just brought up a better game," Parr said. "We brought up the defense. Once we got a hit, it became contagious. When someone else got a hit, I wanted a hit."

Game two was more of a fight. Tied at the end of seven and with bases loaded in the top of the eighth, Land was hit by a pitch that drove in catcher Hayli Scott to make the score 3–2. Pitcher Cecilia Dopart was able to get three big outs in the bottom of the inning to secure the win for the Aces.

"Everyone we played — there was no team, no game, where we could slack off," Parr said.

By far the toughest games were always against MVC teams. The Aces got a 3–2 win over Loyola and a 5–4 win over Southern Illinois, but were unable to overcome obstacles against their other MVC opponents, although they had some close contests, including a one-run loss to Northern Iowa.

"The Valley was a really good conference, which was good competition for us," Land said. "The biggest competition we'd always had was UNI."

With no chance to make it to the MVC Tournament, the Aces hoped to at least win their season finale. But it was not to be. They lost their final game and finished the season 10–45, 2–24 in the MVC.

"It was a sport of failure," Land said. "You were going to fail seven times out of 10, so if you didn't, you were a really good player. You couldn't be perfect."

Postseason honors went to Freeman, who was named to the all-MVC second team, and Lambert, who was selected to the all-MVC defensive team.



Timing is everything. Pitcher Cecilia Dopart watches the pitch and adjusts her swing while she waits for rightfielder Abbi Fahse to finish her turn at the plate. | Willian Mallmann



Catcher Hayli Scott checks her options as she prepares to make the move to third base. | Sadie Wacker



First baseman Morgan Lambert gets herself ready as she watches the pitch and waits for the possible hit. | Sadie Wacker

Trying to beat the tag at home, second baseman Mariah Ferguson comes in sliding as Northern Iowa catcher Anna Varriano prepares for the throw from centerfield to make the play. | Sadie Wacker

"Once we got a hit, it became contagious. When someone else got a hit, I wanted a hit." —Chandra Parr

men's & women's swimming & diving

Pushing himself through his lap, freshman Prescott Marcy flies across the water as the first leg of the 200-yard medley relay team. | Kate Sarber

Faster! Senior Erin Cary knows her cries will be heard as she, freshman Jessi Hildebrand and sophomore Michaela Kent urge on a teammate. | Kate Sarber

Powerful shoulders pull sophomore Taylor Davidson through the stroke as she heads for the wall. | Kate Sarber



Staying focused keeps senior Stephanie Tran centered as she enters the first twist of her dive. | Kate Sarber

Cheering voices echo off the walls of the pool as sophomores Danielle Freeman, Michaela Kent and Nicholas Riffel and senior Conor Sprick watch the finish of a race. | Kate Sarber



"Our first swimmer jumped in and took the lead and we just never looked back" —Michelle Tipton



by Mackenzie Bruce

Ready, Set, Let Your **Efforts** Show

Diving back into the renovated Carson Center pool was a thrill for the men's and women's swimming and diving teams. While always trying to swim faster or dive more accurately, this return home fired up the teams even more.

The women logged impressive individual and relay wins this season, breaking numerous school and event records along the way. While team wins were not in the cards, the number of event and individual accomplishments was truly amazing.

The Aces touched the wall before many did at the House of Champions invitational and records fell like crazy. Ten school and meet records were crushed by the Aces, including ones by sophomore Danielle Freeman in the 50- and 100-freestyle and senior Michelle Tipton in the 200-freestyle.

Freeman, Tipton, senior Sam Montgomery and junior Abby Smith set new records in the 400-freestyle relay. Tipton, Freeman, freshman Jessi Hildebrand and junior Mackenzie Harris set a new school record in the 800-freestyle relay, and Tipton, Montgomery, senior Mackenzie Powell and sophomore Michaela Kent set one in the 400-medley relay.

"Our first swimmer jumped in and took the lead and we just never looked back," Tipton said.

Finishing fourth, the women continued to set records at the MVC Championships. Tipton won the 200-freestyle, breaking her own school record. She also set a new one in the 100-freestyle. Freeman won the 100-butterfly with a new school mark. Tipton, Freeman, Montgomery and Smith recorded the best-ever MVC time when they won the 200-freestyle relay. They

also broke their own school record in the 400-freestyle relay.

Tipton, Freeman, Hildebrand and junior Maja Magnusson set a new school mark in the 800-freestyle relay. Freeman, Smith, Kent and Powell set a new school record in the 200-medley relay, and Tipton, Kent, Powell and Montgomery broke their own school record in the 400-medley relay.

"Individually, we all just wanted to drop times," Tipton said. "Records were a bonus to that."

While most of the attention was on the swimming events, freshman Courtney Coverdale and senior Stephanie Tran were concentrating on their dives. Both had impressive seasons, with Coverdale taking the top honors in the 1-meter at four meets and qualifying for the NCAA Diving Zones.

It was no wonder that coach Rickey Perkins was named the MVC Coach of the Year, with Tipton, Freeman, Montgomery and Smith earning spots on the all-MVC first team. Receiving honorable mention were Kent, Powell, Coverdale and Tran.

While the men competed as fiercely as the women, they didn't conquer quite like they did, but they had their best post-season finish in 15 years at the MAC Championships.

Junior Troy Burger broke his school record in the 100 breast-stroke, and Burger, junior Ethan O'Rourke, senior Ashton Bishop and freshman Daniel O'Brien broke the school records in the 200- and 400-medley relays. O'Rourke paced the team throughout the season, bringing home a number of top honors in back-stroke events. Also performing well were senior Phil Stevenson and sophomores Will Glasscock and Andrew Cotton.

She's got power and precision behind every hit. Senior Natasha James ends her collegiate tennis career on a high note as she finishes tied for the most UE career doubles wins with 86. | MaKayla Seifert

To get more stamina and send the ball sailing across the net, senior Marketa Trousilova leans into her swing. | MaKayla Seifert

Not letting a point slip by, senior Mina Milovic side steps then smashes the ball back over the net to her opponent. | MaKayla Seifert



"We were all focused and did what we needed to win. It was good motivation." —Marketa Trousilova

For any sports team, the goal was always to do better than the team did the year before. The tennis team directed all of its efforts toward that end, hoping not only to play well throughout the nonconference season, but to beat as many conference opponents as possible before it was MVC Tournament time.

"We were all focused and did what we needed to win," senior Marketa Trousilova said. "It was good motivation to go into the other matches."

Many people forgot that collegiate tennis was more than just singles play. It meant that the doubles teams had to step up as well. Keeping those pairings in sync was a challenge since having a partner by one's side involved more strategy than singles play often did, and finding a good balance between teammates was key. Constant switch ups between players forced the women to stay on their toes until the most compatible duos were finally decided upon.

"Singles was more of your game verses their game," senior Natasha James said. "But in doubles, it came down to the teams. [The team that] was more aggressive won, and I tended to have a more aggressive attitude."

While the women worked to strengthen their doubles pairings, everyone also tried to improve their singles game. After nonconference play the Aces were 8–5 entering the MVC season, a respectable record for a team that only had seven players. And once conference play began, the Aces managed to beat Missouri State, Illinois State and Bradley.

After beating the Bears and the Redbirds, the Aces pulled together to take on the Braves for the regular season finale. While the No. 1 doubles team of Trousilova and senior Mina Milovic were defeated in the first round, the No. 2 doubles team of James and freshman Kennedy Craig took second and the No. 3 team of sophomore Andjela Brguljan and junior Gaby Fifer nabbed third. Trousilova took first in No. 1 singles, with Craig, Milovic and Fifer also securing wins in their flights.

The effort earned them the No. 5 spot for the first round of the UE-hosted MVC Tournament. While the Aces ultimately fell to Southern Illinois, James and Craig took the doubles win, with James tying the UE mark for career doubles wins with 86. She was also the only player to take a singles win.

The Aces might not have reached their ultimate goal, but together the team fought admirably against the challenges that faced them all season long

"We always want to win conference," junior Marina Moreno said.

The Aces finished the season 11–10, 3–5 in the MVC. Post-season honors went to Trousilova, who was named to the MVC's all-select team for the third time. She also was a scholar-athlete honorable mention and was one of 10 MVC athletes who received the Leadership and Service Award.

Still Fighting to **Reach** the Big Goal

by Brittany McFadden

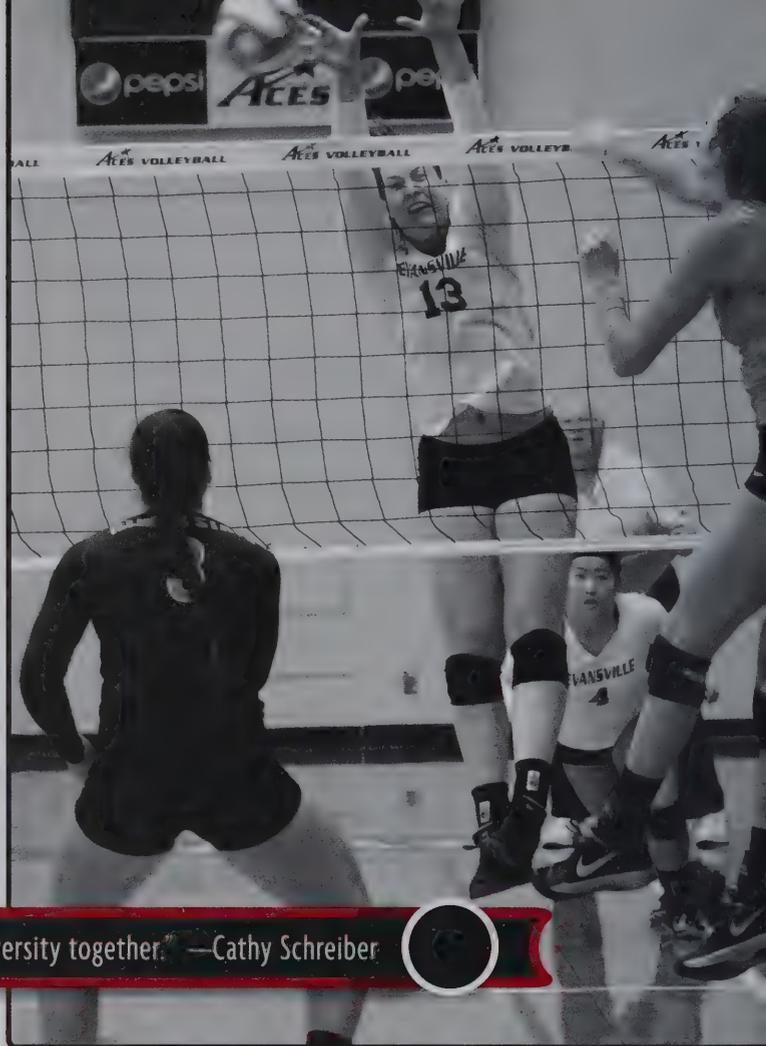


Focus, force and ferocity. Freshman Kennedy Craig's concentration allows her to skillfully return a powerful serve from her opponent. | MaKayla Seifert



Central Michigan can't win it. Middle blocker Meaghan Holmes scores again when the ball slips past middle blocker Hallie Enderle. | Kate Sarber

Hands positioned just as they should be, outside hitter Ashley Ring makes the leap as Illinois State middle hitter Eliza Smith spikes and libero Melanie Sloneker keeps her eye on the ball. | Kate Sarber



"We bounced back, picked each other up. We went through adversity together." —Cathy Schreiber



Concentration is required as middle hitter Cathy Schreiber zeros in on the ball and setter Grace Carter stands ready. | Kate Sarber



Height is an advantage as outside hitter Genesis Miranda smacks the ball for the return against Loyola setter Brittany Brown and middle hitter Libby Bresser. | Kate Sarber

More than 600 fans cheered on the Aces in their match against Tennessee, filling Carson Center to capacity with the support and energy the team would need all season. Besides the eight freshmen new to the squad, UE faced unexpected problems that set the players back and made the struggle for wins a battle.

But they fought through every match, even when injuries forced some to play in positions they weren't familiar with.

"We kept being positive and praying nobody got hurt anymore," outside hitter Tathianna Cordero said. "We knocked on wood every time."

After a mix of wins and losses in nonconference games, MVC play started with losses to Southern Illinois, Indiana State and Illinois State. A dislocated kneecap had already benched middle blocker Montana Schafer, and libero Kim Deprez suffered a broken wrist, making the match against the Redbirds her last of the season.

Even with the injuries, the team earned its first MVC win against Bradley. The Aces took the first two sets, but the last set became an intense back-and-forth battle.

"It was a struggle, but we pulled out to win," middle hitter Cathy Schreiber said. "It was really fulfilling at the end."

Their win over Drake included outside hitter Ashley Ring recording a season-high 26 kills. Unfortunately, it would be the Aces' last win for the next four matches until the women finally got another win over Loyola. Outside hitter Genesis Miranda helped usher in her team's victory by recording seven digs and a career-high 20 kills.

"I felt like we were really in sync," outside hitter Stephanie Cerino said. "It wasn't necessarily the prettiest game, but I thought our efforts were all out."

The team's struggle with injuries continued and caused stress levels to run high when the Aces had to face Northern Iowa — always one of their toughest opponents — while down five players and without either of their two regular setters. Despite the odds, the team refused to give in and fought to make the match one that they could be proud of.

"Even though we may have lost the score in numbers, we gave it our all," Cerino said. "We came back with what we had."

The Aces didn't lack determination but couldn't pull things together in the end. They failed to advance to the MVC Tournament, and while the players were pleased with the progress they had made, they knew more work was in store.

"We hadn't necessarily played our best every single game, but we bounced back, picked each other up," Schreiber said. "We went through adversity together."

The Aces finished the season 8–22, 4–14 in the MVC. Post-season honors went to Ring, who earned spots on both the all-MVC first team and the scholar-athlete first team. Miranda was named to the all-MVC freshman team.

A Season of **Battling** Broken Bodies

by Joy Grace Chen



Keying in on the ball, libero Kim Deprez sets up the bump as defense specialist Lillian Rosa and outside hitter Tathianna Cordero stay near and ready to assist. | MaKayla Seifert



by Joy Grace Chen

Uphill **Battle** to Tournament Wins

Four losses to start the season might have deflated another team, but those losses just seemed to motivate the women's basketball players to do bigger and better things.

Facing strong nonconference competition to start the season, they beat Austin Peay in their season opener before suffering losses to West Virginia and Louisville, both ranked teams. Their 10-point win over Miami (Ohio) showed what the women could do, but they finished their nonconference schedule 7–7.

Beginning MVC play, UE allowed only one loss to crack its winning streak of five. In a lopsided win over Bradley, the women trounced the Bulldogs by 40 points, the largest win margin for the Aces since UE joined the conference in 1994. The women also recorded a season-high 64.3 percent on three-point shots and a season-low eight turnovers — the result of a determined effort on the part of the players.

"Everyone was on that game," guard Laura Friday said. "We were ready to play, and everyone contributed."

Despite this record-setting win, the Aces failed to maintain the edge as they proceeded to go on a six-game skid.

"It was a bit of an up and down," guard Khristian Hart said. "We started out really well and kind of took a hit in the middle."

A win over Illinois State broke the Aces' six-game losing streak and set another record for the women when guard Sara Dickey became only the 19th player in program history to net 1,000 career points when she led all scorers with 27.

But after the much-needed Illinois State win, UE dropped

five in a row before heading into the MVC Tournament.

"There were always games you knew you should have won," Friday said. "We had let some slip that we should not have. You just learned from those games and learned from what you messed up or did not do right and applied it to the next game."

Entering the tournament as the seventh seed, the Aces were once again pitted against the Redbirds. But the night belonged to UE as forward Mallory Ladd dropped 27 points and had 14 rebounds in UE's first tournament win since 2009.

But what was undoubtedly the Aces most impressive win of the season came a day later in the quarterfinals when UE beat Drake, the second seed, in an overtime win that set both a program and tournament record when the women made 17 three-pointers. Hart scored a career-high 29 points, and Dickey broke the single-season scoring record set in 1999.

Facing No. 3 Missouri State in the semifinals proved to be too much for the Aces as they fell to the Bears 75–66. Dickey ended the season with 602 points. She was also the fourth player in program history to make 200 or more field goals in a season, and she ranked second in career points with 1,148. Her 69 three-pointers ranked her third on the program career list.

The Aces finished 13–19, 6–11 in the MVC. Postseason honors went to Dickey, who was named to the all-MVC first team for the second year, and Ladd received honorable mention. She also earned second team scholar-athlete accolades and Hart received honorable mention.



As coach Oties Epps watches something else on the court, guard Taloni Reese looks past Austin Peay guard Tiasha Gray for an open teammate. | MaKayla Seifert

Standing firm, forward Sasha Robinson blocks out USI guard Taylor Stevenson, who can't find a way to get to guard Sara Dickey as she looks to the basket. | Kate Sarber

High above the defense, forward Mallory Ladd shoots over USI forwards Cayla Herbst and Anna Hackert. | Kate Sarber



Her opponent is simply no match for guard Kenya Johnson as she maneuvers around Miami guard Baleigh Reid as she drives toward the basket. | Kate Sarber

Using her athleticism to overpower Miami forward Jessica Rupright, guard Khristian Hart takes to the air as she tries to get the basket as Miami guard Courtney Larson watches for the block. | Kate Sarber

"It was a bit of an up and down. We started out really well and kind of took a hit in the middle." —Khristian Hart

Decisively Setting the Pace

by Millie Harlow



Like a brick wall, forward Montana Portenier's fancy footwork keeps the ball from Eastern Kentucky defenders Mikayla Brillon and Merissa Vault. | MaKayla Seifert

The women's soccer team proved that UE's sports teams were contenders. With a season record of 11–6–3, 3–2–1 in MVC, this year's team had a program-best 12 shutouts — six of which were consecutive — and played more than 600 minutes without allowing a goal and gave away only 12.

Yet the team's success did not come from a change in attitude or a new strategy, but from learning to work together and to their potential.

"We had good players, but being able to play as a team was what brought us to the next level of success," defender Taylor Brand said.

The Aces had a history of not performing as well as they could and worked to keep that from happening again. It showed this season, and not just on the scoreboard. They wanted to do more than win; they wanted results.

"Getting the result was playing to the best of our ability, getting the team to do well," midfielder Bronwyn Boswell said. "Not necessarily winning, but playing like we knew how and like we knew we could."

This showed all season. UE only lost by more than one goal twice during the regular season — a 4–1 loss to St. Louis and a 2–0 to Western Kentucky. They made opponents conform to their game and their tempo instead of the other way around. And as they continued to win, they gained confidence.

During MVC action, the team won game after game. A 1–0 loss to Illinois State and a 1–1 tie with Missouri State were two blips on the regular season, but the Aces were undaunted. Despite a loss to Loyola in their final regular-season game, they were seeded No. 2 going into the MVC Tournament.

"Anything could happen in any game," Brand said. "That was the first time we actually felt like we could win it. It honestly felt like we had a good chance to compete for the title."

And they almost did win it. They beat Drake 2–0 in the semifinals, which brought them head-to-head with the No. 1 seed, Illinois State, who had shut them out during the regular season and had won the tournament the previous three years. But it was not to be. The Aces kept the score tied through the first half, but lost the game, 2–1, to end the season.

Postseason honors were plentiful. Brand, Boswell and goalkeeper Simone Busby were named to the all-MVC first team and the scholar-athlete team. Brand was also named the Defensive Player of the Year and Busby was selected as the Goalkeeper of the Year. Brand and Boswell were also named to the All-Great Lakes Region second team, while Busby earned a spot on the third team.

Defender Tatiana Pagan was named to the all-MVC second team while forward Nicki Baham, midfielder Montana Portenier and defender Olivia Shafer were named to the all-MVC freshman team. Midfielder Emily Griebel received the prestigious MVC Elite 18 Award for the highest GPA in the league.





With midfielder Colleen Dierkes staying on St. Louis midfielder Cristina Rodriguez, midfielder Bronwyn Boswell body-blocks the ball to keep possession. | Samantha Cook

Gearing up for the kick, goalkeeper Simone Busby sends the ball down field as she tries to give UE another chance to score. | Kate Sarber

Sacrificing her head for the game, defender Olivia Shafer sends the ball sailing. Even midfielders Allie Arguello and Caitie Dierkes and Illinois State forwards Emily Dickman and Paige Jarsombeck can't contain it. | MaKayla Seifert

"Being able to play as a team was what brought us to the next level of success." —Taylor Brand



Having already shaken hands with President Thomas Kazee and received their diploma cases, seniors Heather Sisk, Kristen Ohmberger, Whitney McKenzie, Meri Boyland, Megan Bonifer, Michaela Bortle and Trey Ard find amusement somewhere else in Ford Center as they anticipate Commencement's end. While the women chat and watch other graduates, Ard gives the "I know I'm not going anywhere soon" look. | Taylor Williams



IT'S THE Graduates

This was it. Multiple years of college and plenty of knowledge led us to being back on top. The big kids on campus, the ones who knew it all. We were the graduating class, and it was terrifying. Sure, we knew the best places to study, that prospective students visiting campus meant Cafe Court food was worth getting, just how much work we needed to do to get a good grade from each of our professors. But we also knew how close we were to the end, and this was where our knowledge stopped. Some of us had certain plans for graduate school or nebulous plans of employment after graduation. There were even those lucky few who had jobs waiting for them. But no matter which future was ours, we would soon be in the great "after college" unknown. So we made the remaining time count. We hung out with friends, procrastinated on our senior projects, binge-watched movies and talked about future trip plans. We'd be lying if we said we weren't scared. We'd be lying if we said we weren't excited. But as we laughed, cried and stressed our way through our last year, we knew we could face the unknown together. Let's face it, we'd made it this far.



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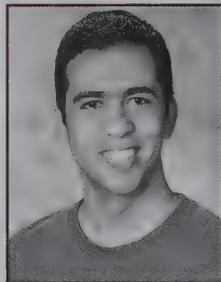
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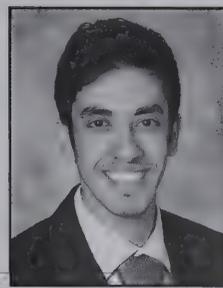
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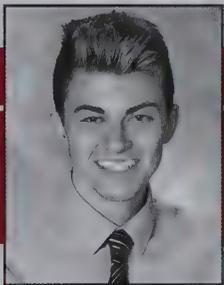
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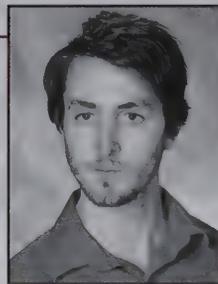
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ROBIN COPPOCK
Richland, Wash.
Theatre Performance



KELLY COUCHMAN
Grayslake, Ill.
Political Science



JOEL CRAIG
Sunbury, Ohio
Exercise Science,
Physical Therapy (Doctorate)



JASON A. DAILY
Evansville, Ind.
Organizational Leadership



KIRBY DAWSON
Boonville, Ind.
Music Education

CRAIG SCHLEMMER

Between practically living in Carson Center's training room, holding leadership positions in Sigma Phi Epsilon and serving as an Orientation Leader, one would think senior Craig Schlemmer wouldn't have had time for anything else. But this athletic training major was not one to say no to anything, let alone if it meant he could help others along the way.

Despite cracking jokes at their friend's expense, seniors Josh Hobson and Trevor Mullen both used the word "selfless" when describing Schlemmer, especially when it came to people close to him. He went out of his way to make sure everyone was taken care of — from his small group to his brothers to his high school athletes.

"He talked about his high school kids more than he talked about us," Mullen said. "He wasn't even a coach, he was just an athletic trainer."

Often Schlemmer found it hard to figure out how to help others or what to get involved in, to the point where Hobson would tell him to take it easy and do something for himself. Although he had always wanted to be a teacher, Schlemmer applied to six colleges indicating



KRISTIE L. DIXON
New Albany, Ind.
Athletic Training



CONNOR R. DONNELLY
Las Vegas, Nev.
Business Administration



ALEXANDRIA K. DRYER
Columbia City, Ind.
Classical Studies,
Social Studies Education



KAYLA M. EASTMAN
Zionsville, Ind.
Exercise Science



AMELIA EATON
Hazelwood, Mo.
Psychology



MCKENZIE ELLIS
Rosenberg, Texas
Creative Writing



NIKOLAUS R. FAHRER
Evansville, Ind.
Accounting, Management
Information Systems



MAGGIE GAHAGEN
Evansville, Ind.
Elementary Education



MARIAH GARDINER
Jeffersonville, Ind.
Neuroscience



JERRICA GARLAND
Bedford, Ind.
Elementary Education

by Mackenzie Bruce

a different major for each. UE just happened to list him as an athletic training major, so Schlemmer took on the task, hoping to combine it with his desire to eventually teach. But he still couldn't decide what to focus on, although his major allowed him to pick a sport to concentrate on his senior year.

"I couldn't decided on one," he said. "I wanted to pick all of them."

So he did. Schlemmer ended up working with Central High School, helping out with most of their sports programs. While working with high school athletes was a lot different than working with NCAA Division I athletes, Schlemmer loved the challenge it brought.

"At first you had to prove that you weren't mean and weren't going to hurt them" he said. "It was kind of that awkward stage for a while, but I fought the awkward. [Once they got used to you], they really looked up to you. So you felt like you were accomplishing something."

Schlemmer applied the same tactics as an OL, showing his small group his carefree and crazy personality as a way to show them that it was OK to break out of their shells.

And with various positions within Sig Ep, the pride of Bright, Ind., worked diligently to help his brothers, whether it was younger members going through initiation or actives looking up to him as president.

"Some things hit the fan [this year] and Craig took it on the chin as far as verbal lashings and went right back to bat for the chapter," Hobson said. "Most people would've cracked from the stress and pressure, but because he loved it so much, he was constantly going to bat."

Schlemmer was even named "Brother of the Year" in appreciation of his dedication to the chapter.

"That was out of 60 guys and he won it," Mullen said. "It just described him."

Despite constantly being on the go, Schlemmer was easy-going and approachable — always ready to crack a joke, watch a University of Kentucky ballgame or simply meet new people.

"If there was someone on campus that was underappreciated, it was Craig," Hobson said. "He was humble, he didn't take credit and he was selfless. He did so much for me as a friend, and he never took credit for it. He swept it under the table."



KELLIE N. GARRISON
Shelbyville, Ind.
Exercise Science,
Physical Therapy (Doctorate)



TRAVIS GILLEY
Evansville, Ind.
Management



SKYLEE E. GOSS
Wheeler, Ill.
Psychology



TOM GRADY
Newburgh, Ind.
History, Political Science



ALLISON GRAY
Westfield, Ind.
Applied Mathematics, Economics



JANICE GREEN
Greenwood, Ind.
Elementary Education



ADAM HAAFF
Rockport, Ind.
Nursing



BELEN ROBLES

When she grew up, senior Belen Robles wanted to be the president of Ecuador, her home country. This wasn't just a pipe dream she had as a child, but a serious goal that drove her to be active in her studies, clubs and work.

"My biggest passion was to help," she said. "When I went back to my country, I wanted to go back and help. I wanted to give back to my country."

Majoring in economics and finance with a minor in political science gave Robles the tools she believed would help her achieve her dream. She also had many leadership positions in International Club and RSA that gave her experience.

"In everything she did, she gave a confident vibe," junior Lorena Marquez said. "She was a leader."

She first stepped up as a leader when she joined IC. The organization became her home, and she was proud to be a part of a club that worked to make everyone feel connected. Robles started by helping with the International Bazaar.

"I was outgoing, so that helped me out if I saw someone alone at the Bazaar," she said. "Then I would go and say hello



DUSTIN HALDEMAN
Linton, Ind.
Mechanical Engineering



GRANT HALES
Austin, Texas
Music Therapy



MALLORY HAPEMAN
Woodlawn, Ill.
Accounting



LOGAN E. HARDY
Cypress, Texas
Theatre



MILAGRA HARLOW
Lafayette, Ind.
Creative Writing, Literature



BO B. HARRIS
Mount Vernon, Ind.
Finance



TRAVIS HASENOUR
Ferdinand, Ind.
Visual Communication Design,
Writing



D. MICHAEL HATCHETT
Evansville, Ind.
Electrical Engineering



LYDIA S. HELDRING
Winslow, Ind.
Finance, Management



CARLY W. HERRUD
Denver, Colo.
Archaeology, Art History

by Brittany McFadden

and try to incorporate them. I liked to make sure that every-
one's voice was being heard, and that was very important."

Robles then became historian, treasurer and eventually
vice president. But this year, she took a position outside of
IC when she became RSA president, a larger responsibility.

"It helped me to learn about different things I was capa-
ble of doing," she said.

But the Guayaquil, Ecuador, native didn't leave behind
the international community, instead working in the Interna-
tional Admission office and being available to help new in-
ternational students. Through the office, she met some of
her closest friends, such as sophomore Francis Prexl, also
from Ecuador.

Both shared common loves, including dancing. Robles'
love of dancing coincided with her love of music — from
Latin to reggae to hip-hop. And she could dance the San
Juanito, a fast-paced, traditional Ecuadorian dance.

The best way to combine these two passions was obvi-
ous to Robles: party with friends. She would plan anything
from get-togethers for her friends to birthday parties.

"She did a surprise birthday party and no one had ever

done that for me," junior Jean Bruggeman said. "It was very
special, that moment."

Dance parties weren't her only hobby — sleep was pret-
ty high on her list of fun things to do, and she tried to read
when she had time. And while during the school year neither
happened often, she always made time for friends.

Despite being popular with her peers, Robles considered
herself reserved and fairly private. But with her friends, she
opened up and tried all sorts of things — from cooking new
dishes, such as pancakes with bananas, to going out for her
birthday to La Cabana. Her smile made you smile, and she
loved to laugh as well. And when her friends needed her,
Robles always reached out to help.

"She caught everything," Prexl said. "For example, you
could have been having a really bad day and she would
catch it."

No matter what, Robles led her peers efficiently, provid-
ed a comforting smile and pursued her dreams.

"She was a very determined person," Prexl said. "I was sure
that when she returned to Ecuador she would have a bright
future."



CHELSEA HILLENBURG
Bedford, Ind.
Applied Mathematics, Economics



JESSICA INGLE
Alton, Ill.
Creative Writing, Literature



NICOLE IVANOVIC
Fort Wayne, Ind.
Exercise Science



VICTORIA JOHNSON
Kissimmee, Fla.
Archaeology



NICHOLAS E. JONES
Columbus, Ind.
Electrical Engineering



ALEX JUNGE
Evansville, Ind.
Computer Science



BRIANNA KELLEY
Evansville, Ind.
Physics Education

ANNA SHEFFER



Meet her once and you would be hard-pressed to forget her. Physically, she was less than five feet tall with long, curly blonde hair. But as soon as senior Anna Sheffer started talking, her personality outshined the rest.

"People often told me I was quirky," she said. "I think that was a nice way to say I was crazy or weird."

Those who were in class with her often recognized the creative writing and literature major by her funny voices when work-shopping pieces. Others knew her more for her sharp wit and love of puns. But Sheffer had a deeper trait that many respected. She was driven.

"She knew what she wanted to do," senior Courtney Mullen said. "For her, it was figuring out what she had to do to get to that point. She knew that she was an A student, so she knew that she could get straight A's."

Whether it was producing an issue as one of Crescent Magazine's writing directors or writing a poem about eye proptosis, Sheffer worked to do her best. It wasn't just about the grade, either. She enjoyed working hard, even when filling out graduate program applications.



ALICIA KING
Newburgh, Ind.
Organizational Leadership



JONATHAN KLASSY
Evansville, Ind.
Business Administration



WESLEY KNIES
Jasper, Ind.
Accounting, Finance



JORDAN KOCHER
Newton, Ill.
Exercise Science,
Physical Therapy (Doctorate)



GRETCHEN KOHL
St. Louis, Mo.
Economics, Spanish



JACQUELINE KOSSOFF
Oak Park, Calif.
Advertising & Public Relations,
Creative Writing



EMILY G. KRIEBEL
Santa Claus, Ind.
Creative Writing



TAYLOR M. LAGRANGE
Tell City, Ind.
Electrical Engineer



KELLY LAMARCHE
Chesterfield, Mo.
Professional Biology



MEGAN LEWIS
Evansville, Ind.
Elementary Education

by Millie Harlow

"I definitely pushed myself to be the best that I could be at whatever I was doing," she said. "Sometimes I could be pretty critical of myself if I didn't meet my goals, but I set the bar pretty high. To me, it was less about an actual grade and more about proving to myself that I could do it."

Yet as much as she pushed herself to achieve, Sheffer made time for her friends and tried to be there for them emotionally despite having a chaotic schedule. Sometimes being there meant sitting on her townhouse's couch and listening to a housemate complain. Other times, it was helping a friend through personal problems.

"I tried to be a good friend, tried to be a supportive and flexible person and to listen to the people I cared about and just be there when people needed me," she said. "It was really important to have strong friendships and relationships in my life. My friends were always there for me, so I liked to be a part of their support system."

Compassion seemed to come easily to Sheffer, and most believed her to have a positive attitude overall. But this didn't mean she was always composed. When she attended Corn

Day in Carmi, Ill., the desolate and empty fields of endless corn terrified the Aurora, Colo., native. The culture of it all just surprised her. When she didn't do as well as she wanted on a Spanish paper, her housemates watched her angrily eat a bowl of cereal. They knew to stay out of her way when she was mad. Sheffer knew she could be goofy, but it was a part of herself she accepted and used to its fullest.

"She was small in size, but huge in character," senior Anjelica Allen said. "It was a cliché, but whatever. She was one of the biggest people that I knew, and she was never afraid to speak her mind."

Sheffer was the type of person who convinced others she was going to succeed — even when she didn't know she was convincing them. Her drive and intelligence impressed those around her, and her empathy and knowledge on how the world worked endeared her to those she cared for.

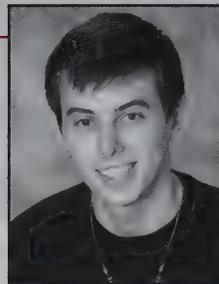
"She was able to step into other people's shoes and understand without ever having experienced something similar," Allen said. "Her emotional intelligence matched her intellectual intelligence."



TAYLYN K. LEWIS
Brentwood, Tenn.
Health Services Administration



CALEB LONG
Harrisburg, Ill.
Music Education



RICHARD LUDWICK
Indianapolis, Ind.
Marketing



TANNA R. MABREY
Winslow, Ind.
Accounting



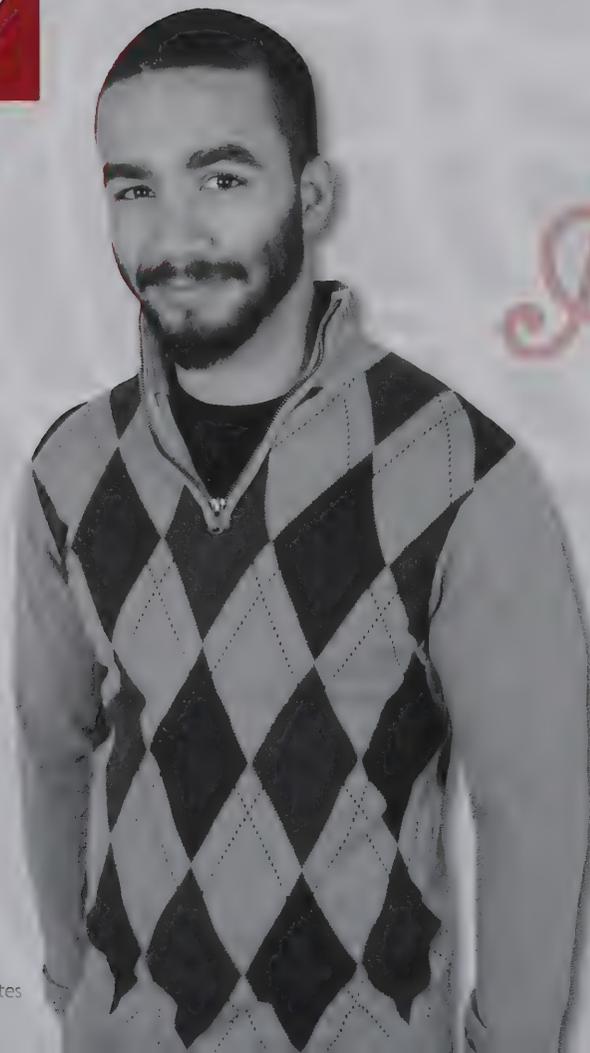
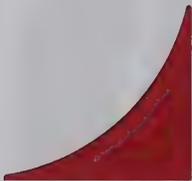
NARSAY MARTANY
Erbil, Iraq
Computer Engineering



ALYSSA MATTHEWS
Huntingburg, Ind.
Computer Science, Mathematics



ASHLEY R. MATTHEWS
Huntingburg, Ind.
Creative Writing, Literature



STEFFAN CLARK

Anyone walking through the Front Oval might have spotted senior Steffan Clark filming his latest dance video there. This theatre performance major did not limit his energy to the stage but took it into his daily life with his passion for dance and his outlook on the world.

Clark's love for dance began in middle school when his interest was sparked by dance movies and step camp. He pursued his passion and eventually created a YouTube channel as well as gathering men and women from Evansville and Owensboro, Ky., his hometown, to form a dance crew called the Guild, whose goal was to spread a dance movement. Clark strongly believed that everyone could and should discover the liberating power of moving their bodies.

"Dance was a platform for me to say, 'Sometimes you couldn't put the thought into words, so you put the thought into dance,'" he said.

Clark started working out his sophomore year and quickly made health a priority and one of his goals. Inspired by vegans and bodybuilders who had defied limitations and expectations, he gave up meat and other animal products.



MELISSA MCCORMACK
Maplewood, Minn.
Applied Biology



NATHAN MCGILL
Evansville, Ind.
Computer Science



RACHAEL MCGILL
Newburgh, Ind.
Theological Studies, Writing



JACKSON MCGRATH
Indianapolis, Ind.
Professional Chemistry



SARAH MCMURPHY
Kalamazoo, Mich.
Exercise Science



STANISLAV A. MATVEEV
Plainfield, Ind.
Finance, Marketing



LYDIA N. MAURICE
Kokomo, Ind.
Archaeology



EVAN MEIMAN
Louisville, Ky.
Neuroscience, Psychology



CHANTAL MILLER
Huntingburg, Ind.
Elementary Education



KYLE MILLER
Leawood, Kan.
Accounting

by Joy Grace Chen

"I wouldn't say I was a health nut, but I was crazy about dreams and goals and progression, and health was a part of that," he said.

But for Clark, the joys of life weren't just physical. He was also a deep thinker who enjoyed having conversations and friendly debates about religion and philosophy with his friends. Junior DeYonte Jenkins worked with Clark on the UET production of "The Wild Party," where the two bonded over a discussion of ideas that led to a close friendship.

"It was like an explosion of knowledge," Jenkins said.

Clark was fascinated by the idea of seeing the world and people in new ways. He did not like categories but preferred to think of everything as giving off energy. Humans in particular were an energy force with the positive potential to achieve anything, from personal goals to world peace. Clark loved just spending time with people — whether teaching dance to a wide range of ages or simply conversing with his friends.

"He loved talking and learning about people and why things were the way they were," senior Maryam Abdi said.

One thing that many found attractive and inspiring about

Clark was his positivity. He didn't believe in letting any limitations stop him from bettering himself and achieving his goals. He listened to a motivational playlist of music and speeches throughout the day to keep a positive attitude, and his pep talks could cheer up anybody who was feeling down.

Clark's same enthusiasm showed in "The Wild Party," which featured him in several dance solos. On closing night, he got carried away and spontaneously leaped down into the splits after his number, an action which overstretched his muscles and forced him to hobble instead of walk the next day.

"He was just so passionate, in the moment," Abdi said. "That [scene in "The Wild Party"] was the perfect representation of him. It was just hilarious — he stunned us all."

After graduating, Clark planned to go to Los Angeles, where he hoped to pursue his passion for dance. He would love to dance on tour or travel the world to teach dance. Whatever he ended up doing, Clark was poised to live his dreams without letting anything hold him back.

"I liked to describe Steffan as a short but very powerful man," Jenkins said.



TAMMY MILLER
Evansville, Ind.
Organizational Leadership



HOPE S. MILLS
Huntingburg, Ind.
Marketing



E. NICK MINTON
Corydon, Ind.
Psychology



CHELSEA MODGLIN
Reelsville, Ind.
Applied Biology



ANDREA MOLINA
Guayaquil, Ecuador
Finance



MEGAN MORAN
Dallas, Texas
Applied Biology,
Environmental Administration



COURTNEY MULLEN
Evansville, Ind.
Nursing

KAYLA EASTMAN



Between dedicating herself to multiple organizations and working at a long-term care facility where she assisted people with disabilities, senior Kayla Eastman gave 100 percent of herself to everything she did.

Campus certainly benefited from her involvement. She was a Phi Mu, an Admission Ambassador, a member of the NO MORE campaign student advisory and the University Judicial Board, and president of College Mentors for Kids and Kappa Chi. Eastman thrived on staying busy and liked being able to make a difference.

"She was involved in so many things," senior Corrie Alexander said. "She just wanted to make campus better. I didn't know how she did it."

Although being a role model could be exhausting, Eastman was passionate about helping others. CMFK was in shambles when she took over, but she brought the group back to life.

"The kids were in an environment where they wanted to stay and they wanted to learn more," junior Ashley Manka said. While working with children seemed to be something East-



ALEXIS NIESE
Rushville, Ind.
English Education



CHRIS NORRIS
Jasper, Ind.
Creative Writing, Literature



PAULA NOWACZYK
Highland Park, Ill.
Literature, Writing



CHRISTINA L. NOWLIN
Scottsburg, Ind.
Health Services Administration,
Health Services Admin. (M.S.)



SUHROB MURATOV
New York, N.Y.
Accounting, Management



CANDICE A. MURRAY
Brookville, Ind.
Music Education, Music Therapy



JUANITA OBERMAN
Murfreesboro, Tenn.
Applied Biology



DONNA OFFERMAN
Haubstadt, Ind.
Organizational Leadership



SHANNON OSIECKI
Des Plaines, Ill.
Civil Engineering

by Katelyn Harbert

man was born to do, she majored in exercise science and intended to study occupational therapy in graduate school. And she did everything she could beforehand to gain experience.

Eastman worked summers at the Double H Ranch, a camp where children with disabilities and terminal illnesses had the opportunity to experience camp like any other child. She also gave her time to the Parker Foundation, raising money for the SeriousFun Children's Network camps.

"Her personality and occupational therapy went hand-in-hand," Manka said.

But her love of helping was not only directed toward people. She also had a great love for animals. She and Alexander made trips to the Vanderburgh Humane Society to visit the animals, something they found relieved their stress. But this love might have potentially been a problem for Eastman.

"She would be an animal hoarder for sure," Alexander said, jokingly. "She didn't have any self-control when it came to adopting them."

The Zionsville, Ind., native was also a good friend. She was never one to pass up the chance to make someone's day better.

"She was just the greatest person I knew," Alexander said. "People asked me who I wanted to be and I said, 'Kayla Eastman.' It was basically like "Mean Girls," except she never punched me in the face."

While Eastman had a busy schedule, she did finagle some downtime here and there. Between watching episodes of "Say Yes to the Dress" to relaxing in a hammock whenever possible, she tried to re-energize herself so she could tackle more.

"I enjoyed sleeping, but I didn't get to do that very often," she said. "My philosophy on life was if we implemented a worldwide naptime, the world would be a better place."

Her energy level might have been maintained just because of a simple pleasure she readily admitted to.

"I was totally addicted to Diet Coke," she said. "For my 21st birthday, my friends didn't give me alcohol, they gave me Diet Coke."

It seemed fair to say that Eastman's desire to help people and impact their lives would remain a constant.

"You didn't necessarily have to be having a bad day for Kayla to make your day better," Manka said.



TAYLOR PARKER
Louisville, Ky.
Management, Marketing



ANASTACIA PEADRO
Mattoon, Ill.
Multimedia Production



TIA M. PENNINGTON
Loogootee, Ind.
Nursing



CHRISSEY PERL
Plymouth, Wis.
Archaeology



ELIZABETH PETERSON
Carmel, Ind.
Health Services Administration,
Public Health, Health Services
Administration (M.S.)



TAMARA PICKETT
Perrysville, Ind.
Psychology



JENN PICKLES
Evansville, Ind.
Elementary Education



CHRIS NORRIS

One of senior Chris Norris' biggest character traits was his sense of humor. He was not afraid to laugh at himself, make a pop-culture joke or make a snappy comeback.

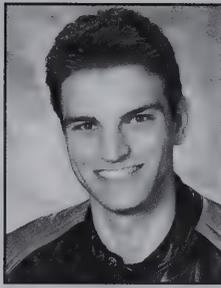
"I tried to be funny — tried being the operative word," he said. "It made things more entertaining. I didn't really do a lot of exciting things, so I think that was my way of keeping myself amused and relating to people."

Majoring in literature and creative writing and serving as one of the writing directors for Crescent Magazine, Norris' humor bled into his craft, no matter if it was a short story, a magazine article or a script. Yet from a young age, dialogue was his passion. For as long as he could remember he imagined characters talking and he understood them that way — it came naturally to him. And when it came to movies and TV, he would plan his day over what cartoons were on.

"Chris watched more movies than probably any other human being," senior Emily Kriebel said. "His idea of the perfect day was to stay in and watch all the Oscar-nominated movies or something he found on Netflix. Film, and particularly what's said in film, was important to him."



TAYLOR A. PIERCE
Sullivan, Ind.
Nursing



DANIEL POELHUIS
Evansville, Ind.
Organizational Communication



ZOE K. POST
Holland, Mich.
Biblical Studies



R. RENAE PRATHER
Henderson, Ky.
Public Service Administration
(M.S.)



CALLI M. PUGH
Nashville, Tenn.
Sociology



AMY M. REINHART
Fort Branch, Ind.
Advertising & Public Relations,
Journalism,
Multimedia Production



AARON REYNOLDS
Wilkinson, Ind.
Computer Science



ALYSSA REYNOLDS
Fort Branch, Ind.
Archaeology



KELIE RIHM
Jasper, Ind.
Applied Biology



DREW ROBARDS
Evansville, Ind.
History, Social Studies Education

by Millie Harlow

Thus, when deciding on what he wanted to be when he grew up, Norris chose being a screenwriter or a playwright. He threw himself into learning about the medium and the people behind making movies.

"It meant I watched a lot of Netflix and called it studying my craft," he said.

The Jasper, Ind., resident once even memorized all of the Oscar best picture winners by year because he wanted to. Yet, rather than making great, award-winning movies, Norris wanted to make great, terrible movies. Some jokingly figured he would end up writing postmodern, ironic humor films. Others, who were partially joking and partially serious, said he would end up working for The Asylum — the company that made "Mega Shark Verses Giant Octopus" and "Snakes on a Train."

"I wanted to write the next 'Sharknado' and do serious stuff sometimes," Norris said. "Just have some fun and write a ridiculous movie every once in a while. It's got to be an easy job."

Movies like "Leprechaun: Back 2 tha Hood," "Troll 2" and "Yeti: Curse of the Snow Demon" had always appealed to Norris. Spending a weekend sitting around and watching horrible

movies was one of the favorite things his long-time friend senior Shaun Seifert and he would do in high school.

"Really bad movies always had a soft spot in both of our hearts, but especially in his," Seifert said. "There's a level of appreciation that you can take out of those films, and I think that was something he really enjoyed."

But B-movies aside, Norris did have a deep love for his craft. He liked the idea that what he wrote was something to be performed, that it would be said and projected. He described one of the greatest days in his life as the day theatre students read his script aloud in Theatre 365, "Playwriting."

"It was the first time I had had my work performed by trained actors who could inject the emotion I had intended," he said. "Even if it hadn't gone over well, just getting an actual performance of it — that was amazing."

No matter if he ended up as a rich screenwriter or just an employed one, Norris knew what he loved. And despite anything else, his friends knew his future would be funny.

"He's always going to make the kind of things he can put a double-entendre in and mess with people's heads," Seifert said.



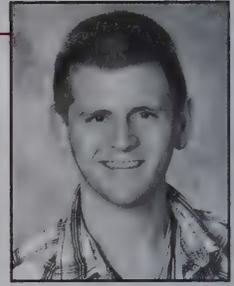
DAKOTA G. ROBERTS
Franklin, Ind.
Applied Mathematics



BELEN ROBLES
Guayaquil, Ecuador
Economics, Finance



DANIELLE SAGE
Orleans, Ind.
Athletic Training



JASON SALO
Evansville, Ind.
Music



KATE SARBER
Elkhart, Ind.
Visual Communication Design,
Writing



ANDREW SCHADE
Evansville, Ind.
History, Political Science



CRAIG M. SCHLEMMER
Bright, Ind.
Athletic Training



STEPHANIE SCHMIDLIN
Palestine, Ill.
Elementary Education



NICHOLAS SCHROEDER
Brighton, Mich.
Exercise Science



SHAUN SEIFERT
Jasper, Ind.
Accounting



KATHERINE R. SEITZ
Dallas, Texas
Theatre Education



ANNA SHEFFER
Aurora, Colo.
Creative Writing, Literature



ABBY SHIRER
Ravenswood, W.Va.
History, Literature



BRONDA C. SIMMONS
Princeton, Ind.
Global Leadership



SALLY SNYDER
Evansville, Ind.
Organizational Leadership



MAGGIE SOMODY
Evansville, Ind.
Professional Chemistry



ERIN STAI
New Lenox, Ill.
Exercise Science



ANDREW STATHAM
Evansville, Ind.
Music Education



PHILIP STEVENSON
Winter Springs, Fla.
Chemistry



COURTNEY STONESTREET
Evansville, Ind.
Nursing



AMANDA STRAHM
Terre Haute, Ind.
Exercise Science



KENDRA STREICHER
Jasper, Ind.
Applied Biology,
Pre-Professional Health



SARAH STUBBLEFIELD
Jeffersonville, Ind.
Art History



LAYNE M. THOMPSON
Robinson, Ill.
Exercise Science, Physical
Therapist Assistance



HLAWN KIP TLEM
Indianapolis, Ind.
Accounting



OLIVIA TOOKER
Lake Placid, Fla.
Literature, Writing



LESLIE TROTTER
Arlington, Texas
Writing



SARAH TULEY
Evansville, Ind.
Music Performance



DAVID W. TYLER
Island Lake, Ill.
Electrical Engineering



JESSIKA VOLZ
Mansfield, Ohio
Athletic Training



HENRY A. VOSS
Gaithersburg, Md.
Anthropology



DAVID M. WANTLAND
Newburgh, Ind.
Music Education



SARAH WARFIELD
Mooreville, Ind.
International Studies, Spanish



KATELYN WEST
Lexington, Ky.
Nursing



CATHERINE WITT
Schaumburg, Ill.
Archaeology



TYLER WONG
Algonquin, Ill.
Marketing



KATIE ZIEBELL
Princeton, Ind.
Applied Mathematics



The Amazing Spider-Man couldn't have done any better than freshman Amanda Binder. She climbs the wall at Vertical Escape without any web-slinging super powers and easily spots the right rocks in order to reach the top without any difficulties. Freshmen Carlene Widmer and Amy Parker watch from below, both in awe at how quickly she summits. |MaKayla Selfert



IT'S Everyone ELSE

Being everyone else meant a lot of things. As freshmen we were shiny and new, thinking we knew what it felt like to be busy when we had no clue what busy really meant. We were busy making friends and mistakes. Sophomores had a bit of the middle-child syndrome, but it came with perks. When it rained, we knew what to avoid and could building-hop with the best of them. We started to feel like adults as we earned responsibilities and had friends to hang with when we should have been studying. No longer were we “stupid freshmen,” though there were days when we stumbled through the sophomore slump. But nothing compared to being a junior — close enough to see the freedom of college’s end while knowing it was still so very far away. It was a curse and a comfort. Senioritis came early for some as we struggled to get up for our early morning classes, while others daydreamed about that last year being a buffer from adult life. And some of us didn’t fit with any of those groups as we planned victory laps or graduate courses. No matter our class standing, we were all in the same boat. If we weren’t the graduates — we were everyone else.



Bushara Ahmed
sophomore



Amanda Alexander
freshman



Mohammed Alsebaa
sophomore



Noor Alsirafi
sophomore



Nour Amhez
junior



Tyler Asgrimson
junior



Jonas Avila Dos Passos
exchange student



Nicholas Baker
sophomore



Tia Balmer
junior



Elena Barnett
freshman



Sari Baum
freshman



Nicholas Bell
freshman



Joshua Best
junior



Alexandra Billhartz
junior



Amanda Binder
freshman



Devon Bodenhorn
sophomore



Dominic Bolt
freshman



Whitley Brock
freshman



Anthony Brookbank
freshman



Anessa Brosman
junior



Zhane Brown
sophomore



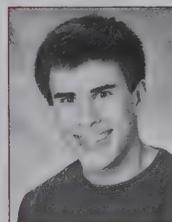
Mackenzie Bruce
junior



Jean Bruggeman
junior



Emily Bruhn
junior



Matthew Bryan
sophomore



Alexandria Burns
sophomore



Ryder Burns
sophomore



David Busler
sophomore



Chereshe Butler
junior



Axel Campero
freshman



Jordan Carpenter
freshman



George Carroll
junior



Hannah Carroll
sophomore



Kelly Carson
junior



Alan Carvalho De Brito
exchange student



Kane Catt
sophomore



Payton Charlton
freshman



Joy Grace Chen
junior



Minji Choi
exchange student



Keziah Colleton
junior



Hanna Collins-Riddle
freshman



Taylor Collins-Riddle
sophomore



Emily Corrigan
sophomore



Chris Costello
junior



Courtney Coverdale
freshman



Lydia Crain
sophomore



Sharon Cuba
junior



Laura Dalto
sophomore



Kelly Danahy
junior



Jacob Darabaris
freshman



Bhuree Dardarananda
sophomore



Alice Daum
freshman



Caitlin Day
freshman



Taylor Donaldson
freshman



Adrienne Donoho
freshman

VICTORIA GEISZ

by Mackenzie Bruce

Four instruments, a passion for helping those with disabilities and a speeding dirt bike were just some of the things that characterized sophomore Victoria Geisz. When she wasn't racing around the property of her family's home in Wildwood, Mo., she was usually found playing music with her friends. But no matter the passion, this music therapy major packed a surprisingly powerful punch.

Geisz already played piano, guitar and ukulele, along with singing in the University Choir, when she decided to take on a new challenge. A used mandolin was her newest acquisition, and ultimately created a common story told among friends. Though they spent hours listening to her play, Geisz's talents still amazed them.

"She just picked up a mandolin and it was the first one she had touched," sophomore Nick Raupp said. "But within 20 minutes, she was like someone who had been playing for years."

With knowing how to play so many different instruments, being a music major took up most of her time. But Geisz didn't seem to mind. She want-

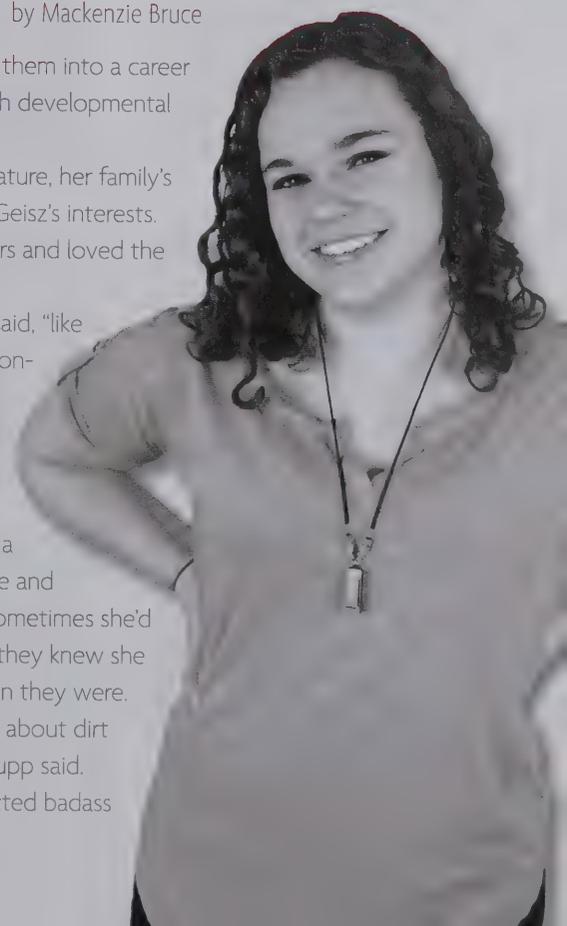
ed to take her abilities and turn them into a career where she could help those with developmental disabilities.

Along with her own caring nature, her family's love of adventure seeped into Geisz's interests. She had been dirt biking for years and loved the adrenaline rush it brought.

"It took a while at first," she said, "like a creature that you learned to control. And when you were going really fast over hills, it was like a roller coaster, except you were driving."

Geisz often had to settle for a simple bike ride around Evansville and saved summers for dirt biking. Sometimes she'd even bring friends along — but they knew she was more at home on a bike than they were.

"At first when she was talking about dirt biking, it was very surprising," Raupp said. "She was kind of like an unexpected badass in a lot of ways."





Jamie Durbin
freshman



Clarissa Eckert
sophomore



Rebecca Eimer
sophomore



Faye Engels
sophomore



Victor Fernandez
exchange student



Kelsey Fields
sophomore



Cody Fiscus
senior



Lizzy Flora
sophomore



Titianna Folson
sophomore



Marah Franklin
sophomore



Karley Garrison
non-graduating senior



Victoria Geisz
sophomore



Carey Georgelis
non-graduating senior



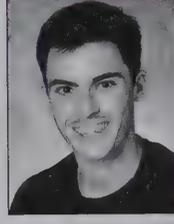
Celcia Goedde
sophomore



Oscar Gomez
sophomore



Luis Gonzalez
exchange student



Alex Gould
junior



Jacob Green
junior



Kaela Guglielmo
sophomore



Cesar Guitunga
sophomore



Katelyn Harbert
freshman



Andrew Harper
freshman



Chris Hartzell
freshman



Isabella Haws
junior



Leah Jo Helpingstine
freshman



Amity Hendershot
graduate student



Caitriona Hill
junior



Ethan Hoffeditz
freshman



Drew Hollman
sophomore



Riley Horlock
sophomore



Alexis Howey
freshman



Tiffany Huffman
sophomore



Brianna Jackson
sophomore



Manuel Jara
freshman



Kendra Job
freshman



William Johns
junior



Chris Johnson
freshman



Konosuke Kamiyama
exchange student



Michelle Karp
sophomore



Amir Khayat
freshman



Chandler Kight
freshman



Maggie Kitt
freshman



Kendra Klein
freshman



Michael Kmiecik
freshman



Ashley Knoblauch
sophomore



Caroline Kopff
junior



Zoie Kruger
freshman



Toby Kuhnke
junior



Kyle Kuykendoll
freshman



Han Lai
exchange student



Clara Laughlin
sophomore



Michelle Lecklider
junior



Jalen Lee
sophomore



John Leffert
sophomore



Ashley Leroy
junior



Xiaoqi Li
sophomore

SAMANTHA MACKEY

by Brittany McFadden

Wearing a bright red beanie and beat-up Converse, freshman Samantha Mackey could be spotted easily in most crowds. Her outgoing personality also drew attention to the Springfield, Ill., resident. Despite being new to UE, Sam, as she was known around campus, was never afraid to be herself.

"She was not afraid to walk up to someone and say, 'Hey, how are you doing?'" freshman Miranda Nelson said. "I admired her for her outgoing personality."

The owner of 15 pairs of Converse and self-proclaimed lover of beanies, Mackey was the kind of person who invited 30 people to a birthday party and had everyone show up. While sometimes she was loud, her friends considered her kind, caring, loving and surprisingly down-to-earth. Whether it was being a part of Student Christian Fellowship, writing slam poetry or attending services at Neu Chapel, she put a lot of heart into her life.

"I had an intense passion for everything I did," Mackey said. "While others could be surface level, I

was really passionate on what I set my heart to."

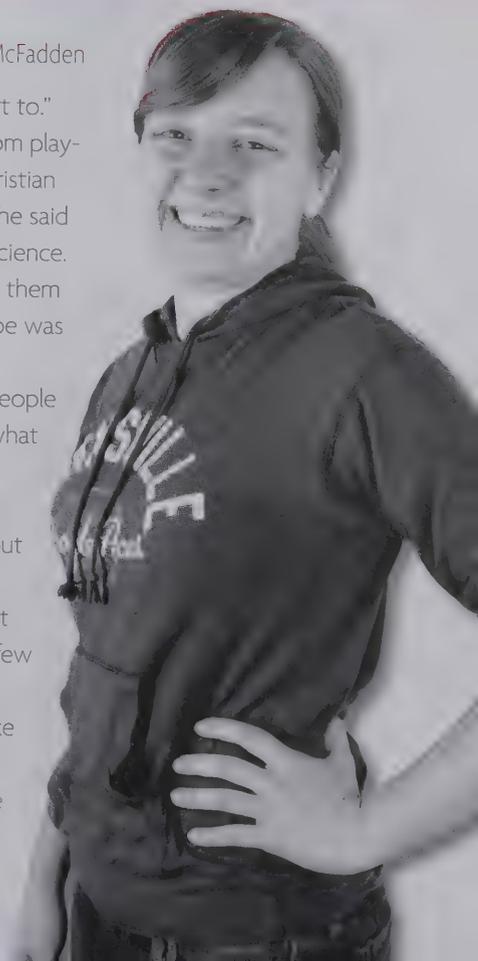
Mackey had many different interests, from playing percussion in University Band to her Christian faith. It was all a part of who she was and she said it even helped with her major — exercise science.

Unlocking people's potential by showing them how awesome their bodies were or could be was a mission for Mackey.

"I was really passionate about showing people that their bodies were more capable than what they thought," she said.

When she wasn't involved in one of her many interests, she would find time to go out to eat or watch Disney movies with friends. Mackey and Nelson also quickly realized that they were two of the lucky ones who had few roommate issues.

"Sam was unique because she was not like anyone I had ever met before," Nelson said. "It was refreshing, very new and at the same time, awesome."





Chunyu Lin
sophomore



Robert Litchfield
junior



Sabrina Lux
sophomore



Raul Macias
sophomore



Samantha Mackey
freshman



Willian Mallman
freshman



Colleen Malo
sophomore



Ashley Manka
junior



Harrison Mann
junior



Stephanie Marcotte
sophomore



Lilia Mast
junior



Lindsey Mayper
freshman



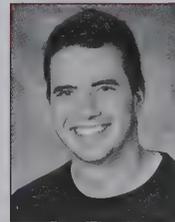
Amanda McCandless
sophomore



Brittany McFadden
sophomore



Matt McKinley
freshman



Blake McNutt
freshman



Megan Mead
freshman



Elizabeth Mendes
sophomore



Blake Meny
sophomore



Madeline Mettler
sophomore



Connor Micklo
freshman



Marelis Miller
sophomore



Carl Minnette
sophomore



Monica Morales
freshman



Marina Moreno
sophomore



Alex Morley
freshman



Megan Morris
freshman



Fernando Mota
exchange student



Yuka Murata
freshman



Daniel Myhre
freshman



Rebecca Nelson
freshman



Tatiana O'Malley
freshman



Maeve O'Neill
exchange student



Jonatan Oliveira
freshman



Hannah Owen
non-graduating senior



Megan Owens
sophomore



Sandra Panknin
sophomore



Amy Parker
freshman



Shaun Perez
freshman



Cassandra Peterson
sophomore



Marcela Pineda
freshman



Baxter Pitt
freshman



Donovan Preston
sophomore



Francis Prexl
sophomore



Stuart Pyclik
freshman



Charlotte Quarles
junior



Nicholas Raupp
sophomore



Kasey Rein
freshman



Trevor Richardson
freshman



Matt Rienzo
freshman



Ryan Ries
freshman



Alex Rodd
freshman



Patrick Roque
sophomore



Charles Runyan
junior



Julie Saucerman
freshman



Timothy Schaefer
sophomore

JACOB GREEN

by Millie Harlow

From “Gravity Falls” to “Dungeons and Dragons” to artificial intelligence, if you had a question about something nerdy, junior Jacob Green was your man. The cognitive science major was well-versed in anything relating to fandoms, but chose not to stick to just that corner of expertise.

As a member of PRIDE, a researcher for the cognitive science lab, the wingman for Delta Omega Zeta, the president of Tau Kappa Epsilon and the chief operating officer for Student Congress, it was an understatement to say Green was involved.

“He tended to collect leadership positions like candy,” junior Tori Long said.

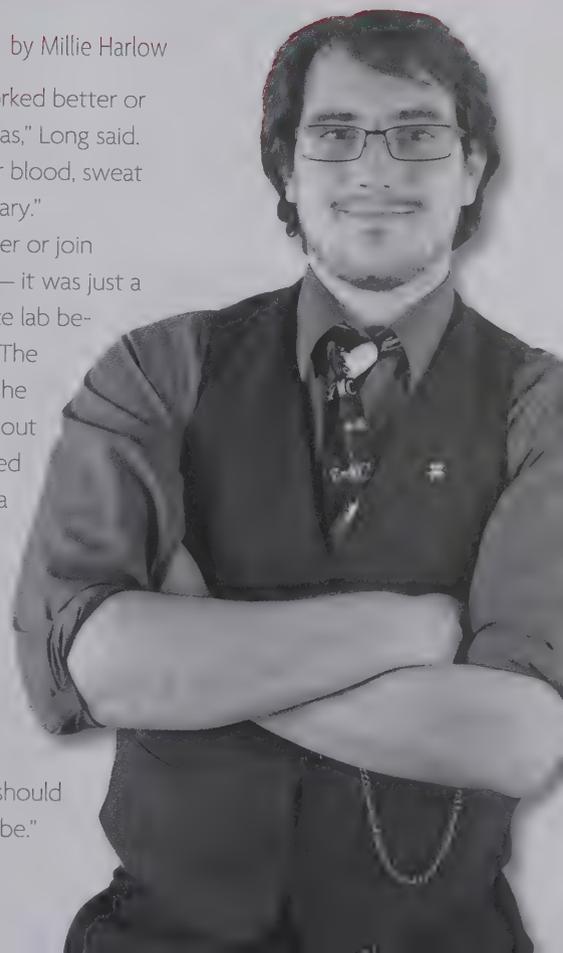
And Green did not stop there. If the Westport, Ind., native saw anything that needed improvement, he worked to fix it. When he was TKE’s Congress representative, the group’s lackadaisical approach to Robert’s Rules of Order irked him. So Green dived in and tried to change that until he got into a position where he could affect things.

“If he took charge of something, he wouldn’t

stop until it was functional or it worked better or it achieved whatever its purpose was,” Long said. “He would put in as much effort, or blood, sweat and whatever as he felt was necessary.”

Green did not want to be a leader or join groups necessarily to better them — it was just a perk. He joined the cognitive science lab because he wanted something to do. The more groups he joined, the happier he found himself and the more he got out of his college experience. He believed whether it was a resume builder or a good time, he could get something out of every opportunity, and that was what made them important.

“When you were in college a lot of what you did wasn’t going to matter when you got out,” he said. “But while you were here, it should have mattered a lot to you, so you should have been as involved as you could be.”





Christina Schilling
junior



Kayla Seifert
sophomore



MaKayla Seifert
sophomore



Carrie Shea
sophomore



Yaman Shiekh Deia
junior



Kristen Sholander
graduate student



Brooke Small
freshman



Bailey Smith
freshman



Isabelle Smith
junior



Landon Smith
sophomore



Madeline V. Smith
junior



Rhys Smith
junior



T'Chanie Smith
sophomore



Tim Smith
junior



Brittany Soderberg
junior



Michelle Sonnenberger
sophomore



Majd Soufan
freshman



Mohmmad Soufan
freshman



Nathan Sterling
freshman



Isaiah Stevenson
freshman



Liberty Stratton
sophomore



Amber Stull
freshman



Nafea Sukkar
freshman



Mikayla Sullivan
sophomore



Missy Sullivan
freshman



Kendyl Surrells
sophomore



Dennis Tedrow
junior



Maria Tedrow
junior



Ruoqi Tian
sophomore



Anneliese Trapp
junior



Marketa Trousilova
junior



McKala Troxler
freshman



Eric Trudrung
junior



Brittni Tully
sophomore



Amanda Tumbarello
junior



Cody Vann
sophomore



Steven Vest
freshman



Kira Vuolo
freshman



Aaron Wagmeister
freshman



Carina Wahlstrom
freshman



Jessa Ward
junior



Rebecca Webb
sophomore



Camelyn Wheeler
junior



Cindy White
sophomore



Erin Willer
junior



Taylor S. Williams
sophomore



Taylor D. Williams
junior



Cari Wilson
sophomore



Lauren Winely
freshman



Lauren Winkler
sophomore



Anna Witt
junior



Mary Wright
freshman



Rachel Wyatt
junior



Natsumi Yamada
sophomore



Haotian Yao
freshman

BEN POTTS

by Joy Grace Chen

Phone calls way past midnight usually weren't anyone's idea of fun, especially when those calls could mean an alcohol bust, an injured resident or out-of-control hall shenanigans.

But junior Ben Potts embraced the adrenaline rush as part of the job. As Schroeder Hall head resident, the Germantown, Tenn., native had the opportunity to be involved in many students' lives, even if it meant juggling a demanding position with being a full-time student.

Since calls could come without warning, Potts had to manage his time to make sure he was ready for them. But he loved the fact that even as HR he was on the same level with his resident assistant staff and could relate to their lives.

"I had those finals coming up, that big paper due the next day," he said. "I was like, 'Yeah, I'm right there with you.' And we could kind of vent to each other about the stresses."

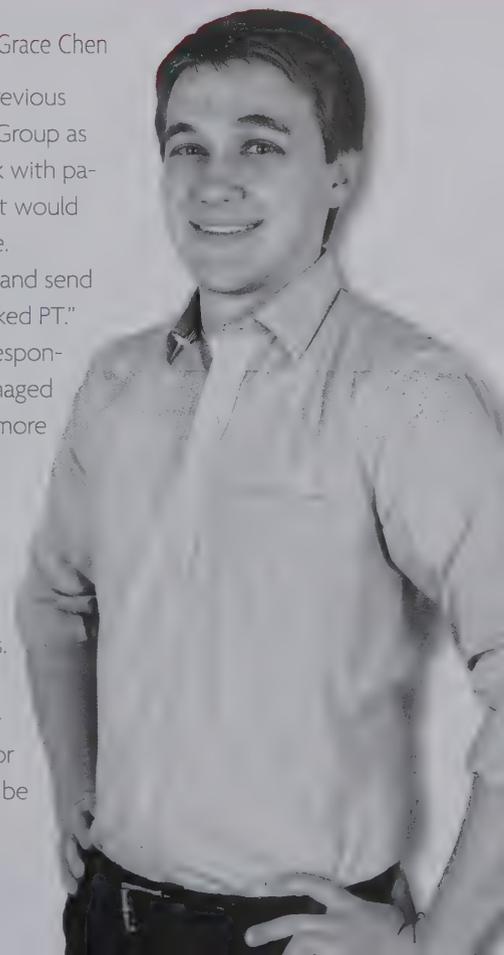
With his passion for helping people, Potts found exercise science and the pre-physical therapy track

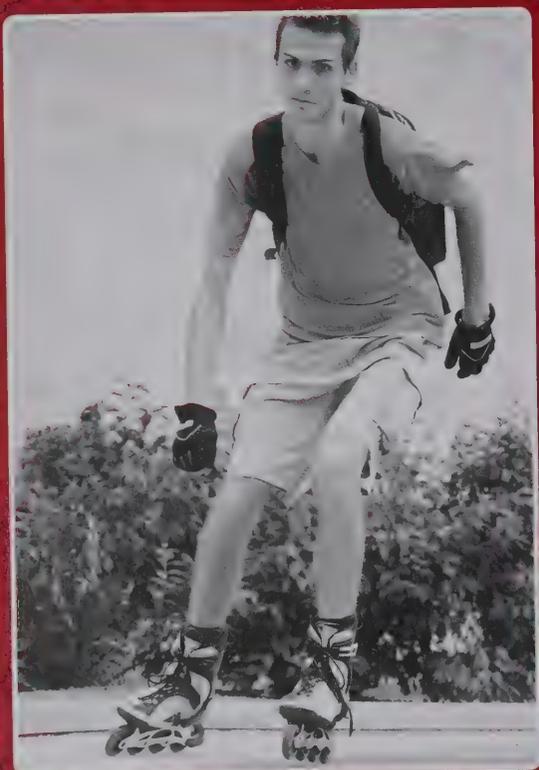
to be perfect for him. He interned the previous summer at Memphis (Tenn.) Orthopedic Group as a technician and enjoyed getting to work with patients. He looked forward to a career that would let him develop relationships with people.

"You didn't just give them a diagnosis and send them away," he said. "That was why I picked PT."

But despite the days overfilled with responsibilities and academics, Potts always managed to squeeze in time for dates with sophomore Hannah Bengtson, his girlfriend of three years, and a 24-hour gaming spree every now and then. He also tried to be a role model, from visiting RAs who were on duty to becoming a member of the National Society for Leadership and Success.

"He was a very caring person," Bengtson said. "He cared a lot about how people were doing and would do anything for them before himself. He was very fun to be around."

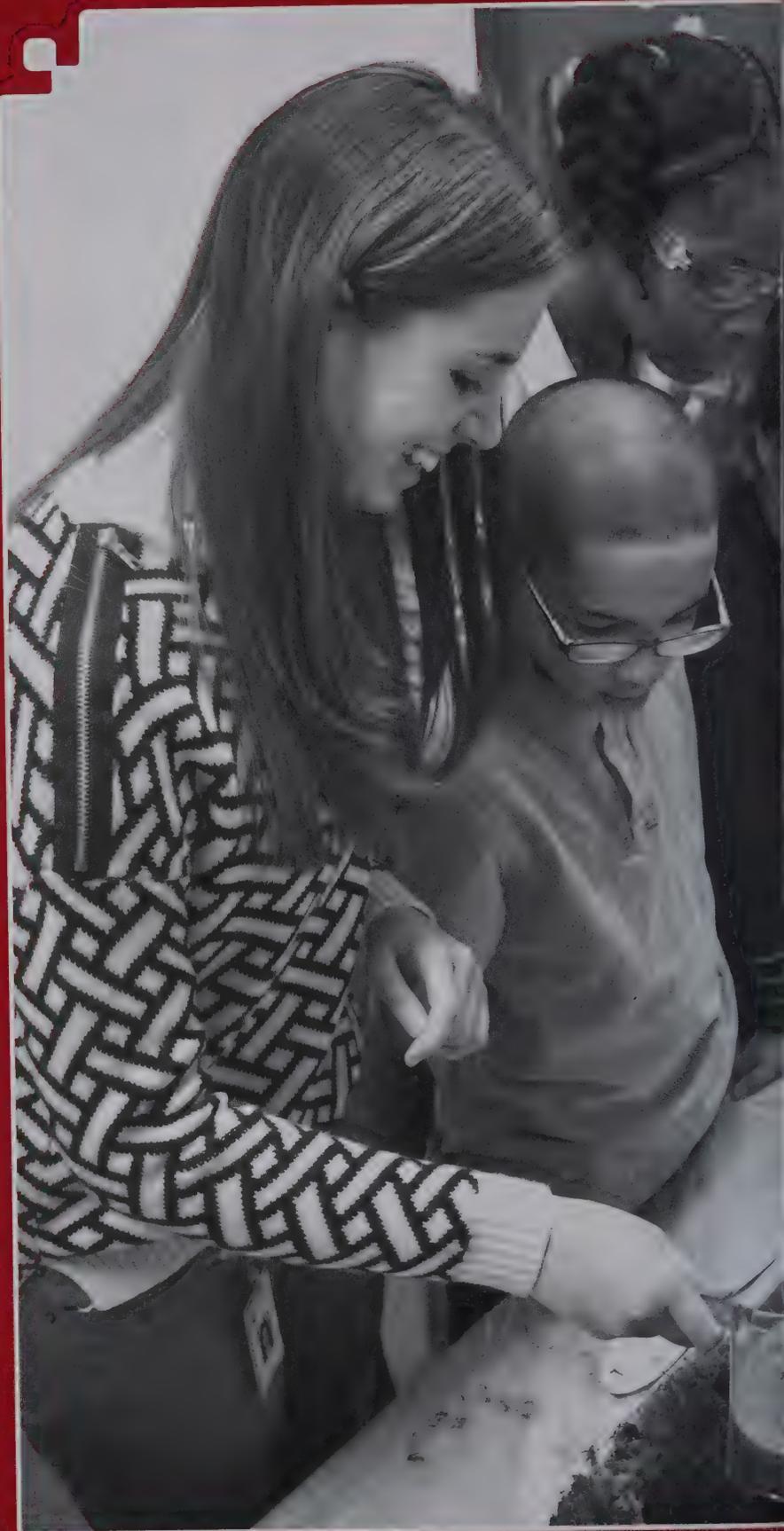




Even though freshman Julian Erickson is an inline marathon distance skater, he still takes time to cool down after a simple skate around campus. | Amy Parker



Friendships go beyond state borders. During a Hale Hall event, sophomore Riley Horlock chats with Alex Androff, who attends the University of Missouri. | William Mallmann



Surrounded by anxious students who are ready to see what is in store for them, student teacher Janice Green gets ready to make her homemade volcano erupt. Her fourth-grade students Aiyah, Ty and Itzel had a lesson on the types of volcanoes. | Taylor Williams

IT WAS What IT WAS



Freshman Katie Williams



Sophomore Blake Simmon



Senior Celine Witt



"Let's root, root, root, for the home team." Even though Dallas' support for the home team was positioned for the catch, it was a little bit of a trick as he caught the right center with the help of two hits on the day again. The home team was a little bit of a trick, but it wouldn't be enough as the away team took the game and the home team (Always Safe).

M

Many things happened during college. Hours, days and weeks were literally lost to perfecting projects, slaving over labs and reading overpriced textbooks. In the morning, we stressed over whether we had enough time before class to brush both our teeth and our hair. During the day, we worried if what we were studying would someday land us a job. At night, we contemplated what our futures would bring; if what we were putting ourselves through was really worth it.

But the parts of college we would really remember — and really cared about — weren't the late nights spent anxiously trying to get a handle on our coursework and fluctuating GPAs. Instead, it would be the nights we prayed that classes would be canceled the following day because of ankle-deep snow and knee-scraping ice while partying like it was a sure thing. It was the rush and the sweat that came from winning that critical game, performing in that philanthropy for the first time or finally looking at the grade on that all-important project and seeing an A. It was the hilarious and crazy things our friends did that we joked we'd someday tell our children about.

We didn't always remember the things that were regularly planned for us or the trends that defined us as a generation. We didn't always remember what we did at such and such floor event or who won which philanthropy, but we recalled our friends finding glitter in their



In Civil Engineering 339, "Soil Mechanics Laboratory," senior Mark Schaefer and junior Thwin Aung grind their soil sample so that it is finer and will sift easier. | MaKayla Seifert



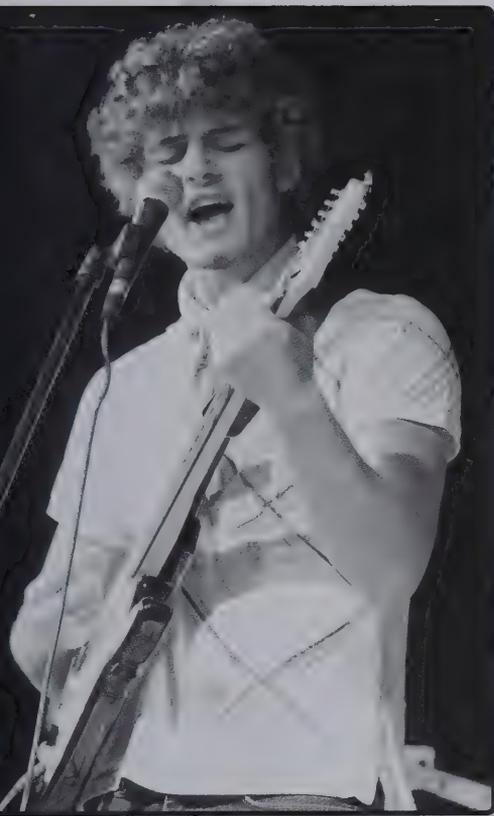
Senior Lauren Longest approaches her painting with patience and professional skill. | Amy Parker



...ology, Gabriel Mallo, Cristiano Souza, Dibe ... De Lima, Vinicius Nor ... Wyla Gustavo Na Victor Arantes and Gabrielle Ramos use this snow day to build the best snowman. | Kate ...



Game and determination help forward Makayla Seifert add another point in the basket as she forces her way past Austin's center, Kiana Baskin, to add twenty-five to the way to a 77-48 nonconference win over the Governors. | Makayla Seifert



clothes for weeks after we covered them in it, spending the whole day in pajamas while having a “Futurama” marathon on Netflix and the countless hours we spent bruising our bodies and laughing at one another as we rehearsed for events.

And it was fine that the little stuff stuck with us maybe more than other things. The bigger things happened all the time, and we always ended up complaining about them. We knew there would be those things that never really changed, but the moments between the games — from NCAA Division I to intramurals C-league — and volunteering — both optional and mandatory — would always be memorable.

Maybe the same old events were repeated more than they should have been and the same groups were always involved, but that didn’t mean fresh themes didn’t bring new memories or new groups didn’t participate and win. Maybe most of the sports teams didn’t do as well as they wanted, but some of us were players who broke records and went farther in a MVC Tournament than we thought we would.

The people we shared late night or early morning food with were what defined our residence halls, not the ants that came through the windows that we sometimes unintentionally fed. Ridgway Center wasn’t just where we got our Jazzman’s Cafe coffee, it was where friends gathered each day to catch up.

Each unknown experience, from carving our first jack-o-lanterns to filling out graduate school applications,

talented freshman Jacob. The
plays and orgs on The Redline
and Year 11. (Bethany Bradley)

Clay through Ridgway. Freshmen Chris
Wigand and Connor Meeks fight over a
cup of coffee. (Mackayla Gilbert)

was terrifying. But as seniors, we'd learned how to fake it until we made it, with a little help from our friends.

Every year brought with it the realization that we didn't feel like the adults we technically were, and it combined with the ongoing feeling that we didn't quite know what we were doing yet. But once May rolled around, we looked back and saw we had a better handle on things than we thought we did.

UE didn't just prepare us for careers or graduate school. College introduced us to people with backgrounds different from our own and ideas we maybe didn't share. Sitting in our residence hall rooms, lying on Ridgway's couches and walking from class to class, we had the casual conversations that shaped us and taught us more than any lab or textbook could. UE was a lot of things, and often none of those things were what the movies or other people said we should expect while we were in college.

Life in college wasn't dictated by what year you were, by nonstop studying and paper writing or, by moments like Welcome Week, Musical Madness and Sunset Concert. It was sitting on the "grassy knoll" with friends when the weather was nice, late night runs to Taco Bell and other things that only happened occasionally, like eating a satisfying and healthy meal in the dining hall. Ultimately, it was feeling like we were finally adults.

We knew the ins and outs of UE, we knew the stress that college brought. But let's face it, we also remembered what it really was.



It was the first time I had ever
seen a sunset from the top of
the mountain. It was a beautiful
sight, and I had never seen it
before.

It was the first time I had ever
seen a sunset from the top of
the mountain. It was a beautiful
sight, and I had never seen it
before.



...with Marguerite Eyd to ...
...with ...
...with ...

...with ...
...with ...
...with ...

...with ...
...with ...
...with ...



2015 LinC staff

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senior | editor-in-chief



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junior | writing editor



MAKAYLA SEIFERT
sophomore | photo editor



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TRAVIS HASENOUR
senior | designer



JOY GRACE CHEN
junior | writer



BRITTANY MCFADDEN
sophomore | writer



KATELYN HARBERT
freshman | writer



SADIE WACKER
freshman | photographer



WILLIAN MALLMANN
freshman | photographer



BETHANY BOEGLIN
sophomore | photographer



SYDNEY BLESSINGER
sophomore | photographer



AMY PARKER
freshman | photographer

Editor's Note

To most students, the LinC is just something they pick up at some point during the year — usually at the Organizations Fair. Then they flip through it a couple of times and set it on a shelf, only opening it when wanting to relive their college days. But for those of us on the LinC staff, the yearbook was a labor of love. It wasn't just pictures of our friends and stories of vaguely remembered events and places. It was a memory — of hard work, long days and amazing people who made this arduous love-child possible.

I would no longer be among the living if it weren't for two women — Olivia Tooker and Mackenzie Bruce. We had been together for a whole year — from May to May — and during that time, I relied on and trusted their strengths as much as my own. They knew when to hold back and re-work a story that still needed help and kept me organized in their own ways. I enjoyed working with them and watching them grow. I can only hope I helped them as well.

MaKayla Seifert and Kate Sarber. As hard as we tried to make the stories interesting, they wouldn't be as good without your photos. Thank you so much for giving up your weekends and evenings. You sacrificed date nights and any free time you might have had in exchange for my love and queso. If there was an event, a game or just something interesting happening on campus, you booked it to get there and instilled the same drive in your staff.

Thank you Travis Hasenour for designing such a wonderful book. You didn't spend much time with the staff because of your split commitment with the LinC and Crescent Magazine, but you still impressed me with your skills. You designed something that feels very much like this year's staff.

To the junior staff: All of you were new to the LinC and likely had no idea what you were getting into, but you all put in so many hours of hard work. This book wouldn't exist without you. Thank you so much for choosing to go on this wild journey with me. You made our office more enjoyable with your presence.

Thank you so much Tracy Maurer. I'm not going to lie, you can be a hard woman sometimes, but I always knew you wouldn't push me harder than I could stand. Thank you for putting up with how bad I was with emails and being confrontational. You were a great teacher and mentor, and I know I'll be able to take on anything because I survived you.

Finally, thank you Paul Cowey of Kathleen and Paul's Portrait Gallery for coming all the way to Indiana to take our graduating and underclass portraits. Thank you to the students who were sources for our stories, the faculty who welcomed our photographers and writers into their classrooms and others who let us record UE and the lives of its students. You weren't technically on the staff, but you helped us all the same.



KATE SARBER
senior | chief photographer



TAYLOR WILLIAMS
sophomore | photographer



KAYLA SEIFERT
sophomore | design assistant

Colophon

Volume 94 of the LinC, "Let's Face It," was printed by Herff Jones Publishing in Edwardsville, Kansas, the summer of 2015. The cover is a Vista litho with a permocote white base with black ink and Pantone 10128C (red) applied. Soft, spot gloss UV enhanced the cover lettering and elements. The typeface families of Agenda and Fontleroy Brown NF Pro were used for headlines, copy, bylines, pull quotes and cutlines and on the cover. Pages were designed on iMacs using Adobe InDesign CC2014. In addition to black and white ink, Pantone 10128C, a CMYK mix of 10/100/80/30, was used throughout the book. Except for the senior and underclass portraits, all other photographs were taken

by Student Publications photographers using Canon DSLRs. Press run for the issue was 1,300, with distribution taking place on campus in the fall of 2015 and eligible December 2014 and May 2015 graduates receiving their copies via USPS. Additional copies can be purchased through December 2015 for \$60 per book through the Office of Student Publications, Ridgway University Center, 1800 Lincoln Ave., Evansville, Ind. 47722. Volume 94 of the LinC ©2015 by Student Publications, University of Evansville. All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reprinted without the written permission of the editor-in-chief and/or the director of Student Publications.

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Feeling the beat, freshman Willian Malimarin leads exchange student Helena Batista Leon across the stage at the International Bazaar. | Taylor Williams



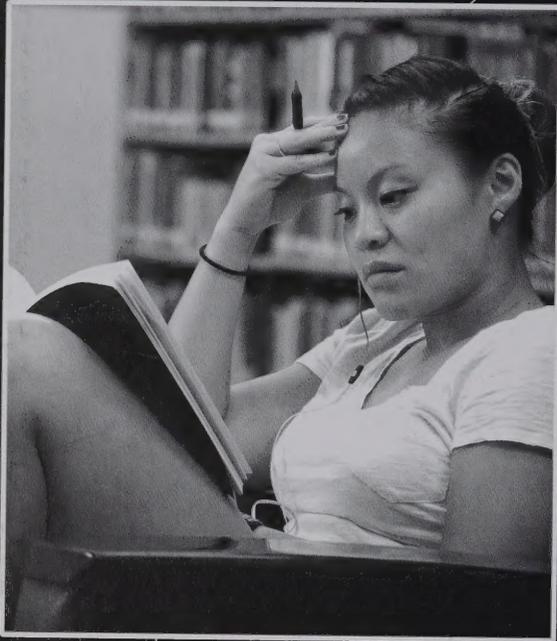
Checking out his playlist before he continues on his ride, senior Mushhoor All-harbi takes a break on the Ridgway Center patio. | Taylor Williams

Sophomores Victoria Geisz and Nick Raupp stop by the Tackling Sexual Misconduct table to grab a few real goodies before class. | Makayla Seifert

Just a moment of panic. Freshman Brittney Wright gets an unexpected push from freshman Dominic Bolt as she tries a new way to ride a longboard. | Taylor Williams

Using a magnifying reader, junior Christina Schilling checks the temperature of a benzoic acid peller burning in the calorimeter. | Makayla Seifert





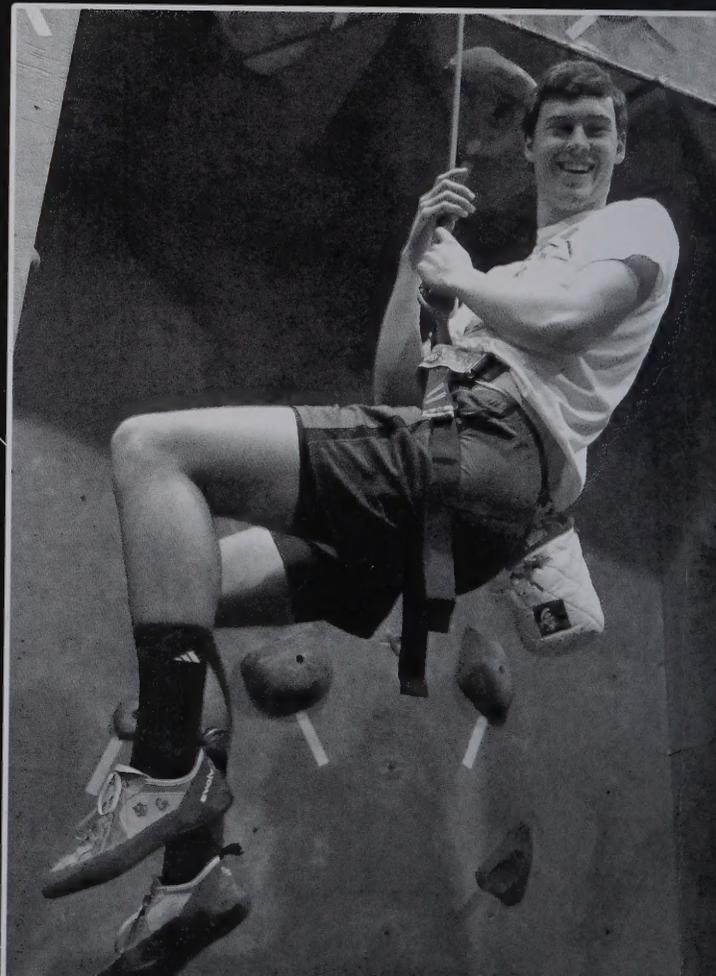
Senior Stephanie Tran uses music to tune out the creaks of the Bower-Suhrheinrich Library while studying. | Willian Mallmann



Teachers for a night, exchange students Haruka Tsuji, Nana Tsuchida and Yukina Amano make Japanese origami at the International Bazaar. | Taylor Williams

Decked out for Powell Hall's "Trick-Or-Treating," freshman Alice Daum and sophomore Colleen Malo admire each other's look. | Bethany Boeglin

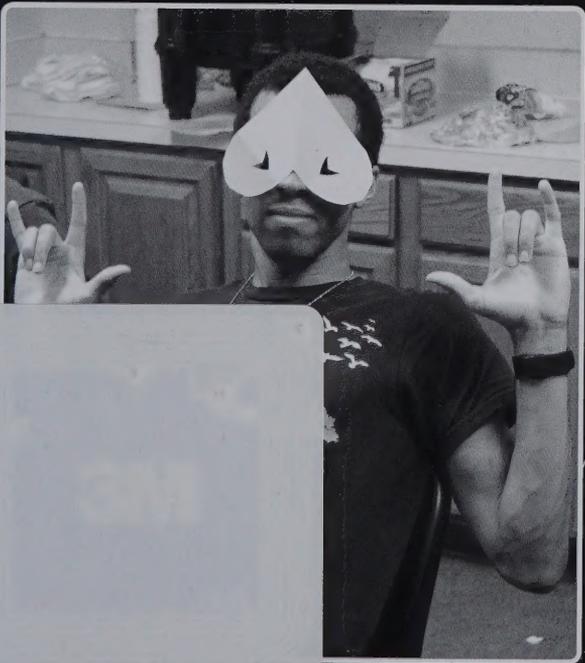
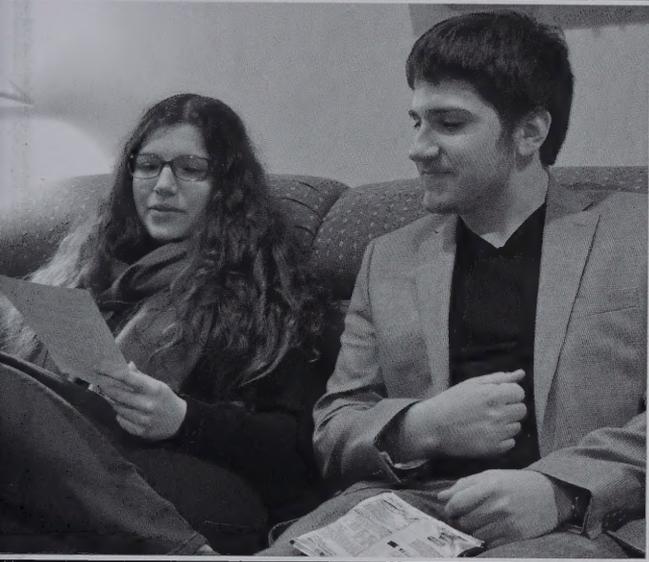
In the trusted hands of his belayer, junior Jimmy Paul dangles in midair after trying to climb a difficult wall at Vertical Escape. | MaKayla Seibert



At Black Student Union's "Family Feud," senior Violet Barrs looks to see what the survey says as she has freshman Tyler Groves and his mother, Daniese, answer the question. | Kate Sarber

Freshmen Samantha Waddell, Emily Magary, Tink Lopiccolo and Amanda Mackey are in harmony in Music 120, "Orchestra." | William Mallmann

Although the pottery blocks what she is actually doing, junior Caitlin McCarthy perfects her torso sculpture. | Taylor Williams



Making paper snowflakes is fun, but for junior Jalen Stepp it isn't nearly as much fun as making a mask. | William Mallmann

Sophomores Megan Owens and Bryce Weeks read over the angelus prayer during a Newman Center meeting. | Taylor Williams

